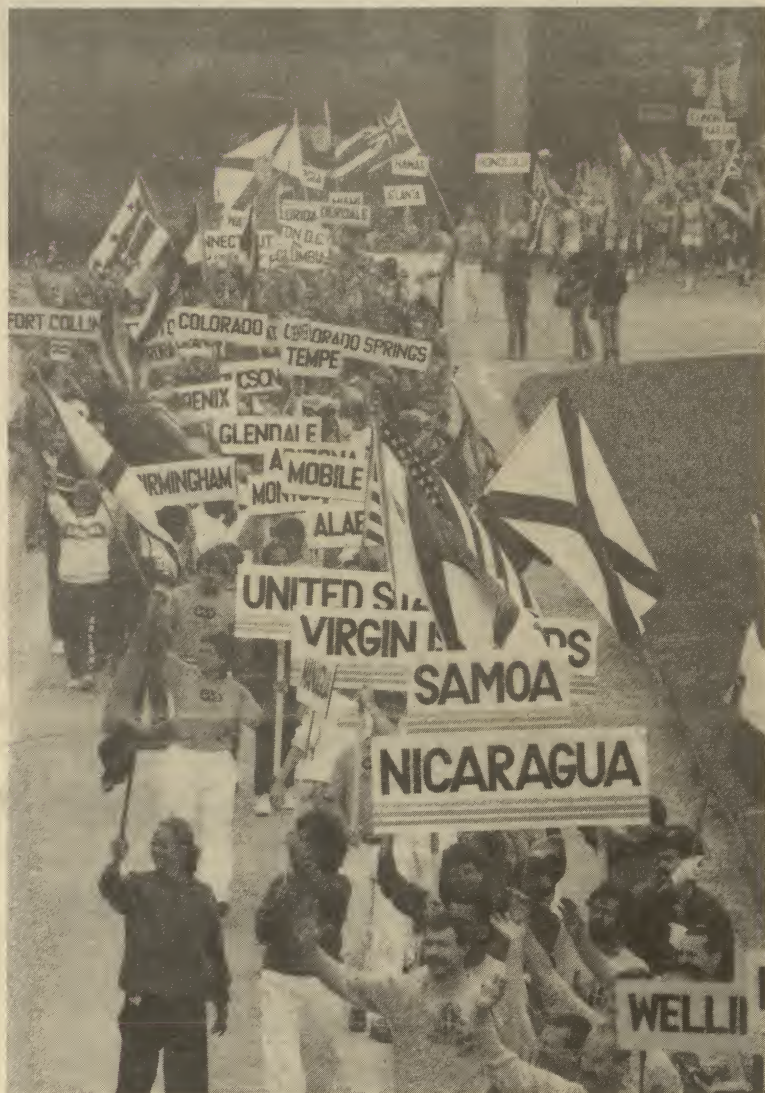


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They came from many corners of the world for Gay Games II. For our special coverage of the Games, catch Allen White's story on page four. Paul Trefzger's profile of George Birimisa kicks off Sports Page coverage on page 38. And, we have three pages of pictures on pages 16-17 and 40.

(Photo: M. Hicks)

Union Drops Curtain On Gay Actors

Levies \$1,000 Fine for Performing In Non-Union 'AIDS Show'

by Steve Warren

Actors' Equity Association, the actors union, has charged Leland Moss and Douglas Holsclaw with violating union rules by performing in *Unfinished Business: The New AIDS Show* and its predecessor, *The AIDS Show: Artists Involved with Death and Survival* at Theatre Rhinoceros, a non-union house. They are the only Equity members in the show, which is in its final performances. A judge in New York is to hear the case Aug. 19.

After nearly two years of correspondence with the two actors, the union held a hearing in Los Angeles and levied a fine of \$1,000 against each of them, offering to suspend \$750 "pending good behavior and adherence to all Equity rules for a period of two years." The other \$250 was ordered to be paid "to a bona fide AIDS service organization functioning in San Francisco."

The *AIDS Show* was originally conceived as street theater to be performed during the 1984 Democratic convention here. Moss became director of the collection of short pieces which could be done separately or together in various community locations. A four-performance run in Theatre Rhino's 49-seat studio was scheduled, largely as an "audition" for leaders of community groups which might book the show. Holsclaw and Moss each wrote some of the sketches. Holsclaw was a performer from the start while Moss got into the show when another actor dropped out and no one else could do his material.

When it became clear that the show would run longer than anticipated, the actors reported the situation to Actors' Equity and requested permission to continue in it. The union replied that the theater would have to give them "guest artist" contracts at salaries of over \$300 per week, even if they only did two performances. They were making \$10 a

performance, the same as the other actors, plus directing and writing fees. The theater was in no position to pay the much higher salaries, plus the required contributions to the Equity pension fund.

In March 1985, Holsclaw and Moss were invited to appear at a hearing in Los Angeles (at their own expense) to defend their actions. They asked that it be moved to San Francisco because of the "inconvenience and unfairness." Moss said there was no response from the union for a full year.

In the meantime, the show was revised and Holsclaw became co-director. It toured to several cities and was videotaped by Peter Adair and Robert Epstein, both in its entirety as a record of the performance and for a documentary about the show.

A face-to-face meeting was held earlier this year in which, Moss said, the union claimed they were just enforcing their rules. He says they failed to

(Continued on page 2)

Rock Hudson Leaves \$8.5M, 2 Lawsuits, Many Secrets

No AIDS Charity, Gay Group Among Beneficiaries; Sister, Lover Try To Crack Secret Trust

by Morgan Pinney

An adopted sister of Rock Hudson has filed suit in Los Angeles Superior Court attempting to get all of the \$8.5 million in the estate of the late movie star who died of AIDS last Oct. 2. Alice Waier of Grants Pass, Oregon, has hired attorney Melvin Belli to press her case. She claims there was a gay conspiracy among unnamed persons which "influenced the deceased away from family relationships and into a lifestyle which was contrary to the deceased's traditional and previous upbringing."

Hudson's last lover, Marc Christian, has also filed a claim. He is seeking ten million dollars, but there isn't that much money in the estate. Christian claims that "it is probable that [he] has contracted AIDS from Hudson,

and as a consequence, will incur medical expenses to prolong [his] life and make his inevitable death as painless as possible." He is represented by another famous attorney, Marvin Mitchelson.

As it stands now, if neither Waier nor Christian are successful with their claims, all of Hudson's wealth will go to the beneficiaries of a secret trust fund, administered by New York City CPA Wallace Sheft. Since



Rock Hudson

Sheft has refused to release any details of the trust, the true recipients of Hudson's money may

(Continued on page 2)

Today

Anchors Aweigh—The Barbary Coast Boating Club comes out of the closet and gets into the water, page 15.

Yanked off his flight home, Mark Sigers says he may sue Delta Airlines. Greg Douthwaite reports, page 3.

Sisterspirit has opened a new coffeehouse and bookstore in San Jose to unify the South Bay women's community, says Gerard Koskovich, page 20.

Novels in the 80s are starting to deal with the mindset that made Ronald Reagan powerful. See page 24.

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Doug Holsclaw and Leland Moss

(Photo: S. Warren)

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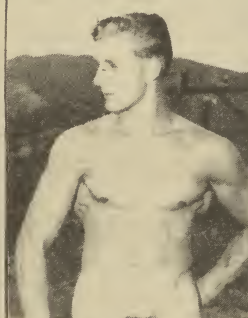
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Actors

(Continued from page 1)

acknowledge his claim that this "particular situation required a particular response." He felt that all solutions offered by Equity, including the fine levied at last month's hearing, would penalize the actors financially, in effect making them pay for not having earned enough money.

One of the suggestions was that the actors, who joined Equity in New York in the 1970s, but have done very little Equity work since moving to San Francisco, resign their memberships and rejoin if and when they need to. Moss explained that this would put them back in the Catch-22 situation faced by all actors at some point, "You can't audition for an Equity show unless you're a member of Equity, and you can't join Equity unless you're cast in an Equity show." In addition, they would have to pay another \$500 initiation fee to rejoin.

"Once you join Equity," Holsclaw added, "you can't work in any [non-Equity] venue." This puts openly gay and lesbian artists at a disadvantage because they have few enough opportunities to begin with.

Even non-gay actors complain of the scarcity of non-Equity houses outside of New York and Los Angeles. The union's response has been to try to sign up more theaters, even making con-

cessions to bring them into the fold. The Magic and Eureka theaters in San Francisco worked out such arrangements a few years ago and have been moving incrementally toward becoming union houses.

Theatre Rhinoceros is another company the union has been after, but a proposal the theater made last fall was not accepted and the union says no further written proposals have been forthcoming. "We went as far out on a limb as we could in that offer," said the theater's publicity director, John Karr.

Finance director Michael Zimmerman said the union's national headquarters in New York shows some sympathy for the plight of smaller theaters, but the regional office in Los Angeles "is run by the old-time hardliners. They're going to have to learn the reality of small theaters in this city."

"Leland and I are being used as pawns," Holsclaw declared, "in their struggle to force Theatre Rhinoceros to sign an Equity contract. They can't get past that to deal with the specifics of our situation."

Zimmerman put it more strongly. "What they've done to Leland and Doug goes beyond using them as pawns. They've discredited their work." The order to pay \$250 "to a bona fide AIDS service organization," he said angrily, "admits that AIDS work is community service, then denies that *The AIDS Show* is."

Actors' Equity Association Western regional director Ed-

ward Weston was guarded in his response to questions. "While the matter is on appeal I really cannot talk about it," Weston told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"It has nothing to do with AIDS," he said. "It's an internal union process." AIDS is "one of the main concerns of the union right now, a crisis within our membership possibly more than any other membership."

Going into Equity's "long and rather proud history of issues dealing with minorities and the underprivileged," he spoke of their refusal to perform for segregated audiences in Washington, D.C. in the early 1950s. "In 1977 we were the first and perhaps only union to take a stand against Anita Bryant."

Asked generally how many infraction reports are reported to Equity, Weston declined to give a number but indicated that few reach the point of hearing and appeal. "For the most part members found in violation of the rules either stop what they're doing or find a way to do it properly," he said.

Moss has been asking AIDS service organizations and individuals who have been touched by *The AIDS Show* to write letters before the hearing to: Alan Eisenberg, Executive Secretary; Actors' Equity Association; 165 W. 46th St.; New York, NY 10036. Weston lamented that these letters would be based on "partial information," but stopped short of saying they wouldn't have any effect.

Hudson

(Continued from page 1)

never be known. While Hudson's will is a public record, it simply pours everything into the trust, a common device to hide beneficiaries.

It's almost certain that none of Hudson's estate will go to any AIDS project because the trust was established in 1974, long before AIDS was identified. Rumors had been circulating that he left his money to fight the disease which took his own life. But that apparently is not the case, although Hudson did help start up an organization to fund AIDS research.

Two weeks before Hudson's death, Sheft, acting under a power of attorney agreement, borrowed \$250,000 in Hudson's name from the Bank of Commerce in New York City, pledging as collateral 20,000 shares of MCA stock worth nearly four times the amount of the loan. The money was advanced to the newly formed American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) which also received the rights to all royalties from a book then being written by Sara Davidson and published this

year by William Morrow & Co. The book jacket carries a reference to the "Rock Hudson AIDS Research Foundation," another name for AmFAR.

AmFAR has already received enough money from the publisher to pay back the \$250,000 loan to the estate and the estate has repaid the Bank of Commerce. Spokesperson Bill White says AmFAR expects at least \$500,000 more in royalties.

The only person named specifically in Waier's claim is Tom Clark, Hudson's one-time lover who returned to Hudson's bedside just before his death. Although Clark was willed household furnishings in Hudson's original will, he was specifically excluded by an amendment to that will in 1984, after the two had had a falling out.

Biographer Davidson writes that Hudson's trust originally provided a lifetime income to Tom Clark, and that, if he were not living, George Nader or Mark Miller would get all the trust's income. However, trustee Sheft will not confirm or deny any details of the trust, except to comment that, "a lot of crap has been written."

If Clark was designated in the

trust document, it is likely that he was excluded from it at the same time he was excluded from the will, so that Nader and Miller are now the likely recipients. When these men die, the \$8.5 million principal of the trust will go to charity.

It's not likely that any gay charity will ever get the money since Hudson is not known to have ever favored any organization in the gay community. AmFAR, which got his royalties from the Davidson book, is certainly not a gay organization. Hudson joins a long list of wealthy homosexuals who have passed up the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the struggle for gay rights by refusing to leave their money to the movement.

Waier claims that if Clark and the secret trust beneficiaries hadn't influenced Hudson she would have been included in the will because she is his only living relative. She was adopted as a child by Roy Harold Scherer, Hudson's natural father. She says that she and Hudson had a "brotherly and loving relationship" up until 1983 when he was "kept from and otherwise isolated from any contacts" with her.

Tossed Off Flight, Sigers To Sue Delta

Airlines Apologizes For Inconvenience,
Will Educate Staff On AIDS

by Gregory Douthwaite

A San Francisco man with AIDS plans to sue Delta Airlines for the humiliation and emotional distress he suffered last week when he was kicked off an airplane in Atlanta. Mark Sigers, 31, was on his way back to San Francisco after a reunion with his mother and eight brothers and sisters in rural Georgia, whom he had not seen in 16 years. Sigers was diagnosed with AIDS a year and a half ago, and may not live to see them again.

Sigers was seated on the airplane, ready to go home, when a Delta stewardess noticed him. She remembered him from the flight to Atlanta and decided he might be too much trouble. She had him thrown off the plane.

Stuck in Atlanta for two days, Sigers finally caught a flight home on Eastern Airlines. The day after his return, he retained a local gay rights attorney to represent him.

Carl Wolf, an attorney with Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF), said Delta clearly breached its contract for round-trip air travel and may have violated San Francisco's AIDS discrimination ordinance.

Wolf has contacted Delta's home office in Atlanta to find out if they are willing to negotiate a settlement. He said that an out-of-court settlement would be in Sigers' best interest, but he will file a civil suit if no agreement can be reached.

Sigers flew to Atlanta on Delta Airlines with his brother and

sister-in-law, Mike and Rita, who had talked him into making a farewell visit with his family. Sigers purchased his round-trip ticket with the help of the AIDS Emergency Fund.

The visit with the family went fine, but the trouble began on his flight home. His stewardess told her supervisor that Sigers should not be flying unattended. She claimed that when she saw him on the flight the week before, his attendants had been very busy giving him oxygen and helping him repeatedly to the lavatory.

A Delta official named James Stewart ordered Sigers to collect his hand baggage. "You are getting off this flight," the red-coated official announced summarily. "We have determined that you are not able to fly unattended." Sigers got off the flight, but his checked baggage went on to San Francisco.

Sigers' brother Mike was paged at the airport. He was told that an additional ticket would have to be purchased for an atten-



Mark Sigers

dant to accompany Mark. Mike didn't have the money and asked whether he could speak to someone else. Stewart said, "No," and walked away.

Mike's wife Rita claims that the stewardess was lying about Mark's needs on the flight to Atlanta. "He didn't need anything," she said. "The only extra thing those stewardesses did for him was bring him one glass of water." She said Mark used no oxygen in flight and used the restrooms only once. "Most of the time he just slept," she said.

Sigers was carrying a letter from his doctor at San Francisco General Hospital which stated that he was "fit to tolerate cross-country air travel." Sigers' body is covered with lesions caused by Kaposi's Sarcoma, and the letter said, "Although the patient's appearance may be somewhat alarming, the patient has recently been quite stable."

Angered at being thrown off his flight like a hijacker, Sigers called San Francisco and was put

in contact with Mobilization Against AIDS. The group got Sigers' permission to publicize the case to show the degree of hysterical discrimination against people with AIDS. An estimated 4.5 million people heard of Sigers' plight in a nationwide media blitz.

Mobilization Against AIDS threatened a boycott against Delta unless the airline apologized to Sigers, issued a statement saying they welcome people with AIDS aboard their flights, and honored Sigers' ticket. They dropped the last demand when Sigers said he no longer wanted to fly Delta.

Mobilization also called Gov. George Deukmejian, who had vetoed an AIDS discrimination bill a week before, saying the law was unnecessary. Deukmejian acted swiftly. He called state health director Dr. Ken Kizer, who sent an angry telegram to Delta's president. "I request that you investigate the matter and assure both of us that this man is not being denied passage on your

airplane just because he has AIDS," he wrote.

At first, Delta was reluctant to meet the demands. According to Ken McPherson, co-director of Mobilization Against AIDS, Delta officials told Kizer to "buzz off!" However, when they found there was a significant amount of public support for people with AIDS, they decided they had better watch themselves, McPherson said.

Delta apologized for the incident just before the boycott was scheduled to begin. In a mailgram to Mobilization Against AIDS, Delta vice president of management services wrote that Delta "regretted any inconvenience" to Sigers. "Delta Airlines transports AIDS patients on a regular basis and intends to continue to serve these travelers," he wrote. "The experience with Mr. Sigers has served to expand our awareness of the sometimes difficult travel situations confronting AIDS patients."

Delta has promised to distribute an educational packet on AIDS to their employees, and Dr. Ken Kizer has announced plans to prepare a letter to all airlines operating in California "laying out the myths and facts (about AIDS)."

Mobilization Against AIDS has postponed the boycott indefinitely. Instead, they are calling for a nationwide Delta Watch. They are asking people with AIDS to report any complaints against Delta to them. If there are many complaints, they will go ahead with the boycott, McPherson said.

The only area of disagreement remaining between Mobilization and Delta is the procedure to determine whether a passenger needs an attendant.

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The California Civil Code does not allow a "surcharge" on credit card purchases within the State of California. The law does, however, allow for "cash discounts." In other words, we should have advertised a "selling price" of each ticket and then offered a "cash" discount for payment by check or cash similar to the practice of many local gas stations.

In order to settle this matter, the District Attorney's Office has requested that we publish this notice and offer those affected a refund of the surcharge amount charged. The surcharge was 4% of price of your ticket. In order to claim your refund, you must write to the following address within six (6) weeks of this publication:

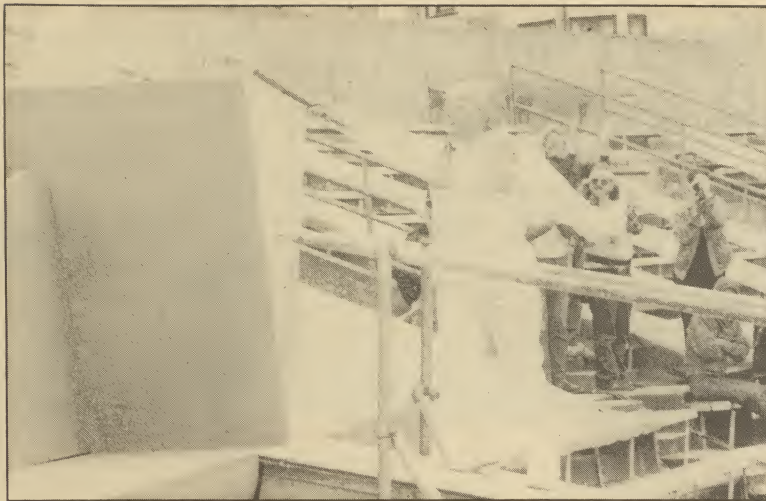
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The District Attorney's Office also has informed us that those affected by this matter (entitled to a refund), if they so choose, you may donate the "surcharge" amount in lieu of a refund. If individuals choose not to claim a refund within the time period and manner specified, the surcharge amount charged will be considered a donation to the original recipients of the charitable event.

The Cable Car Awards, Inc. sincerely apologizes for this misunderstanding and hopes that you enjoyed the show.

—LEGAL NOTICE—



Rikki Streicher starts the Games by lighting the Torch

(Photo: T. Plewik)

The Torch Is Lit: Let the Games Begin

by Allen White

"God damn it, we did it!" thought Rikki Streicher as she lit the torch officially beginning Gay Games II. She said it was "a feeling that almost escapes clarity of definition—something that happens in your chest." Streicher's sense of emotion was shared by many of the almost 15,000 people gathered for the games' Opening Ceremonies last Saturday.

The excitement and thrill of the first official event of this gay Olympics began building as the athletes began arriving in San Francisco.

Athletes from Houston wearing their home town jackets were carrying Emporium shopping bags in BART stations. Polo shirts identified Dallas team members at the rooftop bar at the Fairmont Hotel. Others, by the thousands, swarmed over the Castro as the Saturday festivities approached.

Saturday morning buses lined Castro Street to take ticket holders and athletes direct to Kezar Stadium. The trip to the stadium was unusually quiet as the level of excitement built in intensity. By early afternoon almost 10,000 entered the stands to participate in this spectacular statement of gay pride.

In a grassy area west of the stadium, the athletes and the performers gathered. The brilliant colors of the many uniforms radiated against the grey fog and the greenery of Golden Gate Park. Cameras were everywhere. Athletes from Hawaii wore leis. Band members from New York City gathered together to meditate. Groups formed by city to satisfy the demands of photographers. Outside the stadium, they could hear the sounds of cheers from within Kezar Stadium.

Staying remarkably close to the set schedule, host Scott Beach introduced 90 minutes of community entertainment. Gwen Avery, the Vocal Minority, the Barbary Coast Cloggers, Napata Mero, the Saddletramps, the San Jose Spurs, the Savoy Stompers, Joe Poltrone, and Sharon McNight all performed.

With the introduction of Rita Mae Brown, the Gay Games II ceremony began. The gay community's Alexander Hamilton Post of the American Legion presented the colors. *Cats* star Calvin Rensberg sang a highly stylized arrangement of the national anthem.

The Lesbian and Gay Band of America entered the stadium. The band is the merging of over one dozen bands from as many cities throughout the United States. Under the direction of Jay Kast they performed a medley of songs themed to their respective cities.

The visually exciting Golden Gate Precision Dancers then took the field. Choreographed by Steven Simmons, they dazzled the crowd with their dance routines and their striking costumes.

Led by Sistah Boom, the board of directors and the committee heads of Gay Games II then entered the stadium. They were

followed by the parade of athletes.

The thrill of the moment was overwhelming. A total of 3,482 athletes from the United States and 16 other countries slowly moved around the stadium. With the music of *Waltzing Matilda* the Australian athletes began the procession that would end with the hundreds from the San Francisco team.

Many in the audience were staggered by the unified focus of so many thousand gay men and lesbians. The crowd cheered, they screamed, they cried and they laughed. This was the moment the crowds and the athletes had been waiting for.

The teams were as creative as they were proud. The Point Richmond, California team blew bubbles. The New Orleans team threw simulated pearl necklaces into the audience. As the San Francisco team passed, flowers were thrown from the crowd to individual athletes.

From the east end of the stadium the crowd cheered their approval and jumped to their feet as an old biplane flew overhead with a banner announcing "Welcome to Gay Games II—Triumph in '86." Forced by dense fog to fly precariously low, television cameras followed the plane as it was seemingly within feet of clipping the stadium press box.

In the stadium stands Sup. Richard Hongisto noted the difference in the Gay Games II event and the first games four years ago. "This event shows the development of the gay community and it is very nice to see," he said. Sup. John Molinari, credited with delaying the total renovation of Kezar Stadium so the ceremonies could be held, expressed personal pleasure viewing the spectacle of the Opening Ceremonies.

(Continued on next page)

Gay Games II

(Continued from page 4)

Police Captain Mike Lennon said many of his officers from Mission Station were participating in the games and as part of the volunteer security force. "You have to have a tremendous sense of pride," he said.

The Gay Games are the concept of Dr. Tom Waddell and he was seeing his dream become reality. He concluded his prepared remarks by declaring "Let the games begin."

Waddell then introduced Mayor Dianne Feinstein. She officially welcomed those attending and proclaimed Aug. 9 through 17 Gay Games Week in San Francisco. "The Gay Games are very special, very important, and don't let anybody say they're not," she said. She then praised Waddell saying he was a "fine athlete" and a "fine person."

Feinstein said the games are important because "we are here" and "the games are good." She praised the talent, the energy, and spirit of the participants. "The spirit must continue," she said. Commenting on the fog she quoted Mark Twain who said "The coldest winter is a summer in San Francisco."

Leola Jiles sang "Reach for the Sky," the official Gay Games anthem, as thousands in the



Dallas athletes showed fine fashion.

(Photo: M. Hicks)

stadium swayed with the rhythm of the music.

Sara Lewinstein and Hal Herkenhoff, co-directors of the Gay Games, led the athletes in the oath of Gay Games II. With hands held together they repeated the oath which concluded by stating, "We are proud just to be here."

'The Gay Games are very special, very important, and don't let anybody say they're not.'

—Mayor Dianne Feinstein

As the Lesbian and Gay Band of America played "Chariots of Fire," Bill Matson, a gay senior, entered the stadium in a wheelchair carrying the Gay Games II

torch. Other seniors joined to carry the torch the length of the stadium and to the stage.

Streicher then took the torch and carried it to the highest point in the stadium where she lit the plinth. As the plinth was ignited, cannons fired from the other end of the stadium. As they sounded, rainbow colored smoke engulfed



The athletes gathered on the Kezar Stadium turf.

(Photo: T. Plewik)

More Photos on pages 16-17

Closing Ceremonies On Sunday

by Allen White

The Closing Ceremonies of Gay Games II will begin Sunday at 12:30 p.m. There will be entertainment by Jennifer Holliday, Jae Ross, Ruth Hastings, Cindy Herron, Samantha Samuels, the Hayward Raw Raahs, and the square dancers of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs. Also performing at the event will be the Golden Gate Precision Dancers and the Lesbian and Gay Marching Band of America. A tea dance will follow the entertainment and ceremony inside Kezar Stadium.

Gay Games II organizers have emphasized the financial imperative associated with the Kezar Stadium events. The Opening and Closing Ceremonies carry much of the financial burden of the total eight days. The majority of the sporting events are presented at no charge.

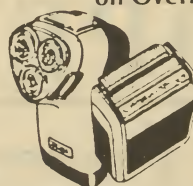
There will be athletic competition in 17 sports as well as almost three weeks of cultural activities as part of Gay Games II. The budget for the games is close to \$1 million with \$250,000 budgeted for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Event administrators strongly encourage all those who respect the spirit of the games to continue their financial support by attending the Closing Ceremonies on Sunday.

Tickets are \$20 and are on sale at Headlines, the Gay Games office at 526 Castro and at all BASS ticket outlets. Tickets will also be on sale at the Kezar Stadium box office on Sunday. ●

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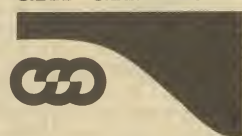
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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Nixon's Revenge

Perhaps one of the neglected points of the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling on *Bowers vs. Hardwick* is its meaning in concurrence with the old Dixiecrats' philosophy of States Rights. Before Pres. Lyndon Johnson steered a civil rights law through Congress in 1964 which assured equal rights for blacks, States Rights was an accepted fact of life in the Old South.

The 1964 bill infuriated many old States Rights advocates, who vowed revenge. The Burger Court's recent ruling in the Georgia sodomy case signals a subtle return to the days of yesteryear.

Unless we band together and do something about it.

The scenario for the whole Bowers/Hardwick fiasco goes back to the election of Richard Nixon as president in 1968, only four years after the 1964 legislation. At that time, Nixon vowed to change the Court. He vowed to put "strict constructionists" on the Court and stop the flow of liberal decisions which had become the hallmark of the Earl Warren Supreme Court.

Well, if anyone is gloating today, it must be Tricky Dick. While the Burger Court has not been as conservative as Nixon wanted (many conservatives stop just short of outright fascism to suit their needs), the Burger Boys have stopped that flow of people-oriented decisions which tend to recognize the dignity of each and every American, not just some.

With the decision of *Bowers vs. Hardwick*, Warren Burger and his buddies have told gays and lesbians what they think of us. Oh, they'll sugar-coat it and cite the fact that they threw an entrapment case out in New York because the New York Legislature had already overturned a state sodomy law, but as the lead item in our national/world page points out, the Bowers/Hardwick case has opened the doors for conservatives to go fag-hunting.

In that article, the *New York Native* reports that a St. Louis Circuit Court judge threw out a case of entrapment against an allegedly gay man, only to have the Missouri State Supreme Court overturn the judge and rule the case retried.

Why? Because the state of Missouri still has a sodomy law and the man who was tried was accused of committing sodomy. One of the Missouri justices, Robert T. Donnelly, cited the Georgia sodomy decision.

That should spell it out quite clearly for all gays and lesbians and all straight people who value freedom in this country. There just simply isn't any room any more to elect national, state and local politicians who don't believe in the ideals of freedom that we do. When Ronald Reagan was elected in 1980, it was argued by many conservatives and even moderates that the economy was in shambles and we needed a new answer in Washington. It was pointed out to them that with the Reagan Economy would also come the Reagan Court and the Reagan Values of Life.

And now, the chickens have come home to roost.

A Court which already snubs its collective nose at individual freedom and dignity threatens to become even more conservative if Reagan's

selections for the Court—William Rehnquist to become Chief Justice and Antonin Scalia to become a Justice—are approved. If Justices William Brennan and Thurgood Marshall die in office or are forced to retire because of ill health, the Court could take a deeper slide to the Right. We could be affected for decades to come by this Court.

There is only one way to stop this. Elect people who are going to kick these real anti-Americans out of Washington. Elect people who are going to grill potential judges until we are sure that they will protect our rights when they are on the bench. And finally, elect people who are going to repeal things such as sodomy laws.

We cannot wait any longer.

—Will Snyder

Gay Games and the Media

There will be arguments in both the gay and straight communities over the merits or lack of them when it comes to the necessity of having Gay Games. Maybe it is because I have worked as a full-time sports writer and editor in the daily press that I think the games have merit.

But whether one agrees with me or not is irrelevant. The games have gone on, both I and II. And with these games, have come some interesting human interest stories, some about people who have had a life-long interest in sports but have felt like a minority within their own social group.

Four years ago, I was extremely critical of the two dailies in this town for virtually ignoring Gay Games on the sports pages. I thought there were a few columns for people such as sports columnists Art Spander and Lowell Cohn if they would break away from the Giants and the A's for one day. The consensus in the block around Fifth and Mission was that there were so many poor performances in the track and field or swimming meets that Gay Games didn't merit sports page coverage.

I don't need to be told that the performances in Gay Games I would not cause professional or college coaches to go scurrying to the record books. I covered enough pro and college sports ten years ago to know the record-holders need not worry.

But Gay Games officials have said right from the beginning that records were not the real meaning of these games. That is why it is refreshing to see that the *San Francisco Examiner* and the *San Francisco Chronicle* have seen fit to insert some features on Gay Games in their sports pages. Particularly poignant was the quote from a young straight athlete who felt it was important for him to be at Kezar Stadium just to make a statement.

"There has been an increased awareness in our sports department that there is a need to cover all kinds of events, whether they are straight or gay," said *Examiner* sports editor David Dietz. "We are looking for a much broader perspective than just football."

In this day and age of LaRouche, Deukmejian, Rehnquist and Whizzer White, Dietz' comments are welcome.

—Will Snyder

OPINION

The Challenge of Our Lives

by Sup. Harry Britt

After weeks of organizing, the campaign against the LaRouche Initiative is now in full swing. Every day it becomes clear to all of us involved that we are in for the challenge of our lives. How well we respond to this challenge will define who we are politically for years to come, and will have a dramatic effect on our fight against AIDS.

It is too early to project the outcome. We expect early polls to show us in a strong position. The public fear of AIDS is strong, however, and can turn to dangerous panic if LaRouche's army of crazies is successful in spreading their paranoia. They have unlimited financial resources and have shown they will stop at nothing to win. Nonetheless, the clearest perception I have at this stage is that victory will go to the side that wants it the most. Clearly we can defeat this initiative, and defeat it badly if we're prepared to do what needs to be done.

The single greatest factor in our campaign will be our media budget. LaRouche's people will tell any lie to frighten people into voting their way. We must be prepared for a media blitz that can do serious damage to our cause if we don't respond.

Some of the top professionals in California have offered us their services. They have exciting ideas to use to put out the most important message about the AIDS epidemic ever seen in this country. These ads will never appear unless we raise the \$3 million or more needed to buy air time.

We can do that. Harvey Milk's message that our dollars and our votes are the two weapons we have to protect our future was never more true than now. We are center stage in California and national politics in 1986, and our performance here will determine the way our audience responds to us long after November.

Our early endorsements show we are going to have support from a

large number of people who have never identified with us before. Many key Republican leaders, as well as elected officials from conservative counties and religious leaders are taking the first step toward working with lesbians and gay men. Whether we deliver in their counties will tell them whether that step was in their interest.

Every Assembly district we carry will mean one member of the legislature more willing to support AB 1.

Every Congressional district we carry will mean one member of Congress more committed to AIDS funding and receptive to federal legislation protecting our rights.

A strong victory against LaRouche will send a message to the Supreme Court, the Immigration Service and Delta Airlines that the people of America's largest state want nothing less than first-class citizenship for our community as we deal with AIDS.

Many want to say that AIDS and the emergence of the New Right have destroyed the gay political will. The LaRouche Initiative gives us the opportunity to put that lie to rest, to show our anger at those who attack us and our determination to overcome this epidemic.

One of our jobs in this campaign is to let non-gay leaders know that our fight is their fight. Early indications are that they recognize that this campaign will bring forth a formidable list of supporters.

LaRouche is expected to spend upwards of \$4 million misrepresenting Prop. 64 and telling untruths about the way AIDS is spread.

The united campaign to defeat Prop. 64—made up of No on 64/Stop LaRouche—which will do the radio and TV ads necessary to win—and California CAN—which will do voter registration and phone banking needed to win—must have the time and energy and money of each of us in order to win.

Please, call the No on 64 headquarters at 621-1145 and offer every bit of help you can.

LETTERS

Pshaw to Zschau

★ It was most distressing to see your coverage of the recent appearance by Ed Zschau. The fact that this candidate is "polished, likable and charismatic" should have little to do with gay perception of him. Indeed, there is another Republican who shall remain nameless who shares these attributes. TV image is not enough. Sen. Cranston may be "stiff and aloof," but throughout the years he has been a consistent friend. And let's face it, folks — we need all the friends we can get. We don't need another Republican rubber-stamping the Reagan ultra-conservatives.

As for the Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, they seem to be a contradiction in terms. The recent reversal of their support of Gov. Deukmejian does not lessen the shame of their up till now blind faith in an enemy of our people. And their lambasting of the recent Supreme Court anti-sodomy ruling is a joke given the fact that it was Republican nominees who made up that majority. What comes to mind are the small handful of Jews in Nazi Germany that first supported that regime because it was good for profits, while the overwhelming majority of their people went on to suffer.

Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

Marc Huestis
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: I'm sorry to say, Mr. Huestis, but your letter is most distressing. The adjectives used to describe Mr. Zschau have been used by most political reporters and observers in this state. They do not imply endorsement of Mr. Zschau, and if you did read the whole article, you would see the article was hardly a puff piece for him. The adjectives are, however, parts of many reasons for many people to believe that Mr. Zschau will probably mount the most formidable political challenge Sen. Alan Cranston has ever experienced.

Since we still vote in the same voting booths as straights, we cannot have separate viewpoints about candidates that are not true. Ed Zschau is going to win a lot of support because of his amicable nature (some of it gay support, incidentally). Should we have said Zschau was rough at the edges or foul-mouthed?

We are trying to report the news, even if we don't always like it. We are not trying to brain-wash you.

Will Snyder

Naive Editorial

★ While I enjoy your newspaper and am no fan of the administration in Washington, I do find your articles and editorial on the Atlas Savings takeover somewhat naive. Anybody who reads the financial press knows that savings banks are routinely acquired, every week, and at an alarming rate, when they become insolvent. This is what happened at Atlas. That Atlas was gay owned and operated had nothing to do with its takeover.

The real tragedy is that after amassing such a broad base of investors, an inept management was allowed to make such poor loans that led to the bank's demise. Attempts to reverse these mistakes came, but were too late.

Rod Baldwin
San Francisco

Fie! Fie! Fie!

★ Brian Jones' lame editorial, "O, Sodom Mio" (July 31), is a classic piece of poor, self-indulgent thinking in the archaic mode. Mr. Jones would have us, once again, believe that the "very best we may hope for is that they (straight people) will leave us alone." He seems to presume that we live on separate continents, in separate worlds; that it would be possible to ignore each other. This is not true. We live in a common world, a common community, and must maintain our vision for peaceful, integrated existence.

Furthermore, Mr. Jones' generalizations about straight people, (e.g., "straight" people don't know any better than to hurt us") reek of the same, small-minded prejudice that we have fought against for so long. Let us remember that, though there are monsters in the crowd, the crowd is not a monster. Let us not make phantoms of friends. Let us acknowledge that there is no "straight community," no general enemy. Rather than speak of "straight people" in general, let us learn to speak of "those who do not yet see." Let us avoid at all costs spilling fuel on the fire of separatism.

Mr. Jones says, "This goal (of straight acceptance) is wrong, it is dangerous, ... it is painful." To Mr. Jones I say, Fie! on your defeatist attitude, Fie! on your self-sympathetic tone, Fie! on your separatist

vision. Let us continue to work for a world in which diversity is encouraged, in which human dignity and divinity is unquestioned, in which bigotry is history. Let us never call these aspirations wrong. Let us not complain if they bring us pain.

As a young man, I owe thanks to the generation before me; to the women and men who made Stonewall happen, who created a movement, who made it conceivable for me to accept my sexual orientation and to share it with my family. Without them I might not have had the courage. Now, those of us who have benefitted from their accomplishments must extend their vision — we must not stop short of recognition and acceptance by all people, of absolute equality. It is a long, long road. Generations may pass, but we must never stop fighting, never stop striving; we must fight the ignorance that separates us and them until it ceases to be. We are fighting a war, a war that must always be fought; the war against the ignorance of those who came before ("moral tradition" in Supreme Court jargon). It will never be won in the classic sense because it will never be over. Simply, it is won in the fighting. We are honored to be on the side of equality, freedom and love; on the side of human growth and development. We are, if you will, the "new right," and as such must fight on without complaining.

The sodomy decision was a major blow, this cannot be denied. I believe that it is indicative of our times and our immediate future. Let us not respond by compromising our objectives, rather, let us escalate our fight. Mr. Jones would have us abandon our objective of acceptance by the community at large, he proposes that it "just hurts too much," he says, "The only proper goal of gay liberation is to teach gay people to love gay people." I say, the only proper goal of any liberation is to teach all people to love all people. We would be selfish, short-sighted fools to strive for anything less.

Stephen J. Kastel
San Francisco

Thank You, Brian

★ Regarding Brian Jones' July 24 article, 'Stop In The Name of Love.' Indeed!

Thank you so much, you have many times in the past pushed a button or two for me; but this time it was more like hitting the nail squarely on the head — who knows and time will tell. Your writing does give me (and hopefully others) a great deal of pleasure and I do wish your continued success.

Being 47, I have often thought of a way of dramatically showing this country, the bigots, etc., just where we are — somehow the marches on Washington may serve a purpose. Why not a general strike? You probably have that seed planted somewhere and I just thought a push may get an article out or thought going. You can see how far I have come knowing now that when I was a teenager I had often wished that all gay people would turn purple for just one day! That would be a bit much. But then again, ummmm.

Brian, thank you again and my very best regards to you.

Charlie Webster
Portland, OR

Bedrooms and Board Rooms

★ Your latest reply to letters critical of Atlas Savings and Loan's demise in which you state that even if it were legal, so what? indicates your biased, opinionated, uninformed knowledge of financial affairs and banking institutions.

We are a nation of laws, dear editor, and it's the "so what?" opinion that gets lawbreakers into trouble. Laws are pre-arranged rules by which a society is governed whether the laws are good or bad.

I hope your performance in the bedroom is better than your ex-cathedra opinion of what should go on in the board room.

Albert Lasker
San Francisco

"Being There"

★ I wish to express a long overdue acknowledgement about a bar here in San Francisco. It has been here for years, and in a lot of ways it's set apart from other gay bars. It's a great asset to our gay community, and I hope it will always be a standard of excellence. It has done its part in the fight against AIDS. It has hosted several beer busts for Coming Home Hospice. Other events, too, with the proceeds going to the AIDS Foundation. What bar am I speaking of?

The S.F. Eagle.

I wish other bars in South of Market, Castro, and Polk would do the same in their own ways. The S.F. Eagle has its heart in the right place, maybe that is really the thing that puts the S.F. Eagle up there.

Mike Atkins
San Francisco

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REVIEWS

Nasty Ad

★ I wish to record, as strongly as words will permit, my outrage at the advertisement placed by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation in your Aug. 7 issue, addressed as an open letter to Gay Games participants. In particular, the statement "Those who are still willing to have Unsafe Sex are extremely likely to be sexually contagious." is medically unsound, certainly scapegoating, and verges on libel.

Perhaps those who write copy for the AIDS Foundation think we can be categorized as "madonnas" or "whores," but this doesn't match my experience. People will engage in higher risk activities at some times than at others, with some partners than with others. These decisions will reflect, among other things, the perception of risk to ourselves and our partners.

What the AIDS Foundation has said is, in effect, "If he'll sleep with you, he'll sleep with anyone." I find that insulting to both our community and our guests.

Were this simply a matter of honor, I would send my complaints to Miss Manners and forget it. My concern is that the arguments advanced in that advertisement give LaRouche (and more dangerously, Deukmejian) the weapon with which to attack us. If one could identify "sexually contagious" by residence in San Francisco and willingness to perform a single act from the short list provided in the ad, then quarantine and a criminal sodomy statute are plausible governmental responses.

They are not responses that we as a community can afford. In order to forestall them, I call on the AIDS Foundation to recant. As a taxpayer, I call on the San Francisco Health Department to look more carefully at the messages they are funding. And I call on this community to reject the notion that there can be no sex after AIDS.

Richard Gorin,
Director, Committee to Preserve
Our Sexual and Civil Liberties
San Francisco

'I' of a Letter

★ Letters:

Let's Learn Legendary
Lamp Lifting Lady's
Lessons Lest Libelous
Low-Life Lack-Luster
Legislators Like
Lyndon LaRouche
Limit Liberties!

Don Eckert
San Francisco

Krystalnacht Revisited?

★ Jews for Hitler? Blacks for Botha? Gay Republicans!?

After the events of the last month, it should be clear to every gay and lesbian just where the Republicans want them, and it is not above ground. It is no longer farfetched to hear again the nighttime smashing of shop windows as that party gives bigotry its blessing. They, and their judges, are only beginning.

There must be a massive voter registration drive and campaign against Deukmejian and Zschau, and for Rose Bird and her colleagues. Membership in the American Civil Liberties Union is a wise investment now. To be apathetic at this point is to invite a disaster which becomes weekly more evident and ominous.

Gray Brechin
San Francisco

The Rise of Fascism

★ Something terrible is happening right before our very eyes. It is deceiving millions of people and telling many lies. It is the sudden rise of fascism.

Gov. George Deukmejian's veto on Assembly Bill 3667, the Meese Commission, the Supreme Court rulings in Texas and Georgia and Lyndon LaRouche masthead the horrible accomplishments that our veer to the right has attained. Though these examples of bigotry may be startling to us, the powerful and influential are licking their lips at the mere thoughts of their newborn popularity.

Millions of people are developing and accepting philosophies once kept in the abyss of our social manner. They are deciding what is morally correct and acceptable. They are deciding what is conducive to a cleaner society. And they, the many, many people who have lost their ponderability, are basing these decisions on the opinions of the extremists in power. We, as a society, must take hold of the thoughts of those powerful and realize the unseen dangers they indeed do possess. We must decide for ourselves who is sovereign and what is right for our own minds, bodies, and souls.

Many people have lost contact with the respect of self-sovereignty. They must reassess their convictions to correlate with the actual needs of our society rather than with the needs of the power-hungry bigots who influence them. Can you imagine Jerry Falwell as the President of the U.S., LaRouche an advisor, Farakhan as Secretary of State, and Reaganites the majority in the Supreme Court (The latter becoming reality)? Think about it, folks who do not think. Not only will gay people suffer, but straight people will suffer, too. For some, the term, deviant, is up for grabs.

Now, the fascism just doesn't stop there. There is also South Africa and other places which host the parasitical belief of "justice and liberty for some." But that is another story.

Richard Dawson
San Francisco

Finding Shangri La

★ I don't know who said it, but . . . "the day one spreads his wings and flies, experience begins." This statement can only characterize my times in San Francisco since June 25 of this year. . .

My name is Keith and I have spent a month out here living with my brother Frank in the Castro district. And being from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, my first days out here were just like I saw on one of your postcards . . . "I have the feeling I'm not in Kansas anymore!" You see, I'm not gay but my brother is. And his world is so very different than mine. And, yes, I admit it, at first I was just plain awestruck everywhere I went. (I even went to the Gay Parade!)

Well, soon I realized that it was time for me to grow up . . . that I was out in the real world . . . and that it was time for me to get with it. And I did! And since that realization day in early July, my vacation took a turn for the better. And now, on the eve of my departure, I can honestly say that San Francisco's Castro is one of the most creative places in the world.

Can I take a few lines to thank a few people and places for making my stay here great?

Thank you John, Eric, Steve, Dennis, Mike, Randy and Fernando. Of course, my brother. And special thanks to the City Athletic Club for their excellent facility and staff. Castro Video for their entertainment. The Castro Theater for giving me the impetus to go out and find my own "Shangri La." Marcello's Pizza for its excellent taste. And The Cut Up for taking the time to reorganize (even cellophane!) my "straight" hair.

My California experience is something I'll cultivate for the rest of my life. Back home is not like here . . . but somehow, after this, back home is just never going to be the same again.

So while I'm ready to return to Massachusetts, I'm anxious already to return to California real soon.

Thanks again, guys . . .
Your new ally,

Keith Forker
Cape Cod, MA

New Strategies

★ When one combines all the injustices committed against our community over the recent weeks with the news of a surge in AIDS cases in the City and the looming threat of the AIDS Initiative, it is hard to escape the feeling of being "shell-shocked." It should be readily apparent to all that now is the time to adopt bold new strategies in the struggle to be a free people.

One suggestion that I haven't heard voiced before is drawn from the experiences of oppressed people in other countries. The use of funerals to serve as not only a common time for us to grieve but also as the setting to provide much needed political strength to all of us should be considered. It is a sad reality that nearly every day someone from among us is allowed to die at the hands of a hostile and damning society. Some of us may desire to use this final opportunity to make a strong political statement.

We can no longer afford to work through proper channels, if we ever could. Our very right to exist is under fire in ways most of us have not seen since the modern gay rights movement began.

Keith Griffith
San Francisco

CEBV

★ There must be other gay men out there who have recently been diagnosed with or have been living with CEBV — Chronic Epstein-Barr Virus Syndrome. How are you coping with day to day life? My lover and I need to talk with other men involved with this disease. Possibly form a support group? Please give me a call at 788-2200 and leave me a message. Thank you.

Ken Wolff
San Francisco

LETTERS

Healthy Sexuality

★ Once again, the cries arise, most recently in the *Village Voice*, that we need to "examine" the gay lifestyle, to see if we had "license" and not freedom, and to question whether it was immorality that led us to the tragedy of AIDS.

Isn't it obvious that superstitious sexual attitudes have caused this kind of response, not anything inherent in sexuality itself? When polio hit in the 1950's, did people talk about the immorality of swimming in public pools (a connection, by the way, that has never been proven)?

The only approach that makes sense is to learn scientifically how a disease is transmitted and inform people of how to prevent its transmission. If our society had a more circumspect attitude about sex, rather than the primitive, superstitious, guilt-carrying attitude that it presently does, the response would have been quite different — celebrations of safe sex in the bathhouses and newspapers printing exact descriptions of safe sex activity (instead of having a U.S. Postmaster returning such materials as "obscene" and Canadian officials deleting descriptions of unsafe sex).

In similar fashion, drugs, like alcohol, have always been regarded as sinful in this country. But the moralizers would stop us from talking about safe drug use, and stop the distribution of needles that might prevent disease transmission. This kind of wrong-headedness is going to result in the deaths of millions of people.

I do not hope to convince the tiny-headed bigots who would wish for the death of all who have sex outside of marriage or who use drugs. But I would hope that those of more diverse lifestyle would realize that they are being asked to buy into a moralistic attitude that has no basis except as superstition. We must work for the acceptance of healthy, consensual sexuality as a natural human right, and demand that any attacks on disease not concern itself with superstitious bigotry, but only with helping people stay healthy.

Timothy Brace
San Francisco

... When Falwell Arrives

★ Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As you probably know, I have received a judgment against the Rev. Jerry Falwell for nearly \$9,000.

I would like to collect it and you can help me.

Let me know if Falwell is coming to your city. I will meet him at the airport with my judgment and a marshal.

Please call me at (916) 381-3115 with the date and time of arrival and I will be there.

Jerry Sloan
Sacramento

AIDS/ARC And The Law

★ I am a brand new attorney who was admitted to the California Bar just last month. I have had a mild ARC condition since November of 1984. I am still unemployed—probably because I tell all prospective employers of my ARC condition. Nevertheless, I have an infinitely understanding "hubby" who waits patiently for my day of employment.

Meanwhile, I have lots of time on my hands. Recently, I called the local gay attorneys' association—BALIF—to volunteer my time and legal services to indigent persons with AIDS or ARCS. (BALIF is the organization responsible for coordinating all such legal services in the San Francisco area.) I was told that the organization could not use my legal services because I was not covered by legal malpractice insurance.

Apparently, BALIF has decided to limit itself to being a mere lawyer referral service and will only refer its AIDS/ARC contacts to attorneys with such independent insurance coverage. BALIF seems to have no desire to get directly involved with providing legal services to its AIDS/ARC clients, or in providing a support network of volunteer attorneys, paralegals, law students and others to assist those insured attorneys who have had AIDS/ARC cases referred to them by BALIF.

I believe that the decision to keep BALIF as a mere lawyer referral service is short-sighted and simply wrong. BALIF now has a unique opportunity to establish a sorely needed legal clinic for AIDS/ARC sufferers—using a combination of staff and volunteer attorneys to supervise other attorneys, paralegals and law students in screening, intake and outreach. The Tenderloin Housing Project (which has no legal malpractice insurance) is a good model. The accumulated expertise, the avoidance of duplication of services, and the ability to expand its services to meet the needs of a rapidly growing number of AIDS/ARC clients (without over-taking already overworked attorneys), are reason-a-plenty for such a clinic.

Until BALIF gets its act together, I would like to

offer my time and legal services to any attorney out there who has accepted indigent AIDS/ARC clients on a pro bono basis. In addition, if any San Francisco resident with AIDS or ARCS needs (but can't afford) an attorney, and is having problems getting BALIF to move on your case, I would be happy to do what I can. (Be forewarned, however, that I have no malpractice insurance and own no assets—so you won't get much if you sue me later on.) My number is 861-2957.

Stuart A. McDonald
San Francisco

No Welcome Mat

★ Celebrate the visit of a homophobe and sexist? No way! Tell Feinstein and Archbishop Quinn the Pope is not welcome.

Steve Ridley
San Francisco

Not a Pipe Dream!

★ RE: A Fiery Response.

This is a note of encouragement to not only Doug Stenson, but to others who have recently written regarding smoking in public, and especially bars.

You don't have to "fight 'em," Doug, nor do you have to "join 'em." Instead you can join the Butt Out Club which is now serving as an alternative to bi and gay men who want to socialize in tobacco free atmosphere. Men who want to quit smoking or to see what our group is like are welcome to visit as long as they respect what we stand for. In other words, we don't expect you to have a cigarette just before you enter the door like people do on buses, in theaters, etc. because not only do you have a foul breath, your clothes, body, hair, etc., also reek of it.

We want to encourage people to stop smoking and to really taste life, as well as their food for a change. But we're not a smoker's support group as was erroneously listed in one of the papers.

For what the average person spends on bar excursions we can have a private hall or home, depending on the number of people, and we not only avoid the air pollution, but the ear pollution as well. People can really relate as much as they want without having to put up with other men using cigarettes as props and security blankets.

Several of our members are also nudists and will be having both indoor and outdoor activities for other non-smoking nudists, which gives new meaning to our name but was not the original intention.

If you are sincerely interested in socializing in non-tobacco areas, or are an enterprising bar owner who wants to increase his dwindling bar business and would give your DJ the night off, or turn the volume "way down" (which would certainly be welcomed in even the Country Western bars whose DJ's are deaf or think that the patrons must be!) then please feel free to contact us.

R. Allen
The Butt Out Club
Box 14594
San Francisco 94114

Mother Superior Eu?

★ The former Republican Sen. Milton Marks recently was opposed to the Costa rent control bill passing as he felt such an issue was better handled locally rather than statewide as he is a firm supporter of local governmental control.

Gov. Deukmejian has only followed those principles of local government knowing what is best by vetoing the AIDS discrimination bill. San Francisco has an ordinance which protects us and likewise this matter should be handled on a city by city and county by county basis thereby having local laws fitting local conditions.

Likewise, the lawsuit in Sacramento county court by the Secretary of State should be dismissed and the LaRouche proposition 64 allowed to stand. Your voter booklet says, "Arguments printed on this page are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for accuracy by any official agency."

This has always been the practice and now is no time for Mrs. Fong Eu to start displaying any favoritism. The voter arguments have always contained lies and distortions which we can discern. We don't need the Secretary of State to become the new Mother Superior of California.

Andrew J. Betancourt
San Francisco

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Wayne Friday

Bad News for Dems

Ready or not, the election season is underway in California and Prop. 64, the LaRouche Initiative, has definitely taken center stage. The LaRouche scheme would, if passed, allow health officials to test anyone even suspected of having the AIDS virus, would create a list of those who test positive for the AIDS antibody, and would prohibit employment of those people as waiters, bartenders, teachers, and airline stewards. Prop. 64 threatens to overshadow both the race for governor and the U.S. Senate.

The proposition is, without a doubt, the most repressive proposal ever to be placed before the voters of this state, and the shocking thing is that current opinion polls show this bigoted measure has a chance of passing. Never have we been faced with such a threat. I know that I have asked before, but please, please help defeat this vicious initiative. The LaRouche Initiative must be defeated and we need help. Every dollar you can send is needed. Sit down and send a check today — no matter how large or small — to No on 64/Stop LaRouche, 130 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

★ ★ ★

Recent polls show incumbent Sen. Alan Cranston picking up support in his bid to defeat challenger Ed Zschau, but don't bet on it. While Cranston shows a 13 percentage point lead in the latest Field Poll (51-38), the important news for the challenger is that his percentage of support (38 percent) has stayed the same, while Cranston has picked up some help from the "undecided" column.

It should be remembered that Congressman Zschau is known to only 56 percent of California's voters, contrasted to Cranston's 95 percent name identification factor. The recent Field Poll shows that incumbent Cranston's range of support has been only 47 percent to 51 percent in the last year, a period during which Zschau moved from 20 percent to 38 percent.

It is definitely much too early to call this one, but once the Zschau campaign gets into gear, Alan Cranston and the Democrats can be in a hell of a lot of trouble. I know at least one top name state Democrat who says he would take bets that once Ed Zschau gets going Alan Cranston will lose this one.

The gubernatorial race is a horse of a different color. Though recent polls show dramatic gains by challenger Tom Bradley, this one, barring an upset of shocking proportions, is all over. George Deukmejian will handily defeat Mayor Bradley and there is little the Democrats can do about it.

This is disastrous, of course, because if there is one thing we don't need, it is another four years of George Deukmejian's insensitive, anti-gay "leadership." This governor deserves to be defeated. As gays and lesbians we owe it to our self-respect to cast our vote against him.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Rose Bird is headed for one of the most lopsided political defeats in the state's history. If the Republicans bring, as I am sure they intend to do, President

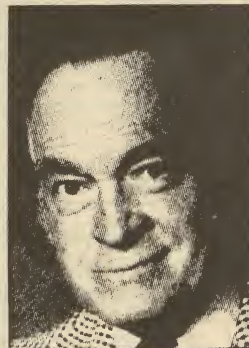


Sen. Alan Cranston

(Photo: Rink)



Ed Zschau



Bob Hope

Reagan into the state the last week of October to campaign for the party ticket, Leo McCarthy could go down as well. Barring a political miracle, folks, the Democrats are in for a drubbing in this state in November. I don't like it either, but that's the way it looks.

Comedian Bob Hope, who put his foot in his mouth and took a lot of heat (first reported in this paper) about his Statue of Liberty AIDS joke, showed that he has class after all. Hope headed a blockbuster committee of 25 top Hollywood names announced this week as part of the effort to Stop the LaRouche Initiative (Prop. 64). The committee, headed by Hope, Elizabeth Taylor, Carol Burnett, Barbra Streisand, and Gregory Peck, will mobilize the entertainment industry and raise funds to defeat Prop. 64. Other Hollywood names on the committee include Gene Kelly, Goldie Hawn, Diahann Carroll, Sally Field, Matthew Broderick, Sydney Pollack, and songwriters Alan and Marilyn Bergman.

Philippine President Corazon Aquino will speak in San Francisco at the World Affairs Council at the Hilton Hotel, and nearly 2,000 are expected at the Sept. 23 luncheon.

A federal court in Richmond, VA, ruled this week that Jerry Falwell is entitled to \$200,000 awarded by a jury that found he "suffered emotionally" from a parody in *Hustler* magazine, but was not libeled (and now you know why the founder of the Moral Majority has "emotional" problems).

Sup. Richard Hongisto will officially kick off his re-election

campaign at a celebration on Aug. 27 at Fort Mason Center, Bldg. A (\$10-\$50 donations asked, door prizes, etc.; 673-6873 for info).

Dianne Feinstein, Anne Rudin, Tom McEnery, and Lionel Wilson, the respective mayors of San Francisco, Sacramento, San Jose, and Oakland, are serving as honorary co-chairs of a Gala Dinner to Stop the LaRouche Initiative at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Sept. 4. This is a big one and tickets are set at \$200 each (call Anne Busch at 861-8295 for info).

Arlo Smith, son of District Attorney Arlo Smith, officially announced last week that he is seeking a seat on the BART Board from the 8th District and politico watchers are giving him a good chance of unseating incumbent Republican Eugene Garfinkle.

And with nary a bleep in the local press, President Reagan last week nominated U.S. Attorney Joseph Russoniello to another four year term as the federal government's prosecutor for Northern California. Senate confirmation is assured.

L.A. gay activist Peter Scott, who built a powerful lobby for the gay and lesbian community and has been one of the leaders against the LaRouche Initiative, has been stricken with the disease and is hospitalized in Sherman Oaks Community Hospital, according to friends. Scott is one of the most respected gay rights leaders in California.

State Sen. Ed Davis (R-Canoga Park) this week attacked the Gann initiative (Prop. 61), calling the scheme "small-minded."

LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



Mike Hippler

Of Time and the River

Tuesday Afternoon, Fife's: Tuesdays are normally water-skiing days in the Delta for me, but this Tuesday I've got a damaged knee and the boat has a damaged propeller, so I've come to the Russian River instead with my friend Jim. It is the first time I've been here in a year (other than to check out the flood damage in February), and it is good to know that some things seldom change, 50-foot floods notwithstanding.

As I have done for years, I am lying under the redwoods by the pool at Fife's, surrounded by the same bronzed bodies of last year and the year before that. Or are they? There do seem to be more lesbians than there were before, but I don't mind this. Indeed, I like it. In any case both faggots and dykes are reading the same trashy novels and applying the same greasy lotions people have always read and applied here as they recline in the sun defying the gods of skin cancer.

My novel is anything but trashy, of course. I am reading Beryl Markham's *West with the Night*, and I have come across a line that has some significance, I think, at least today: "A life has to move or it stagnates. Even this life, I think. It is no good telling yourself that one day you will wish you had never made that change; it is no good anticipating regrets. Every tomorrow ought not to resemble every yesterday."

Maybe so, I admit. Nevertheless, I have difficulty with change and appreciate stability—especially in this day and age. But even I acknowledge that some

things must change. I'm not so sure about Jimmy. He is still eating mushrooms, for instance—the eternal flower child. When we first came to the River together, years before I discovered Fife's, drugs were the central focus of our river experience. How well I remember dropping acid and staring for hours at the multi-colored rocks on the river bottom. Yet eventually, whenever I dropped acid, all I could think about was chaos and death. Fortunately or not, Jimmy never had that problem. Consequently, his river experience today is somewhat more intense than my own.

Tuesday Evening, the Cabin (after a disgusting dinner at the Hiding Place): Jim, who unlike myself had never visited Fife's before today, has decided he doesn't like it much. "Everybody acts as if they're on stage," he remarks, as if it were the first time he had ever come across that phenomenon. "Actually," I suggest, "I think of it as an arena, where gladiator queens hurl attitude at each other, and only the strongest survive. You just have to learn to ignore all that." Immediately, though, Jim reminds me of Bette Midler's all-encompassing and appropriate retort: "Why bother?"

Why bother, indeed? One of the problems with the River—on a weeknight, at least—is that when the sun has set there is no one central location for people to gather. The River lacks a well-defined social center—which is a shame, for it seems like people who have spent all day basking in the sun deserve some reward. The

Rainbow Cattle Company comes as close as any place to serving this function, I suppose, but it is a rare night indeed when the person of your dreams, who was at the pool or by the River in the afternoon, is in the bar at night.

Well, tonight the likelihood of meeting someone there should be greater than most, for it is the night of the big Bartender's Bash, and we have been told not to miss it. In spite of this advice, Jim and I are spending the night at the cabin, perched high on a hill deep in the woods. "What's the point?" I ask Jim. "We'll only get frustrated." (Pollyanna is not one of my nicknames.) "Besides, I didn't come to the River to find a trick. I came for peace and solitude instead. Anyway, it's been so long since I had a trick I wouldn't know what to do with one if, by some miracle, he fell in my lap."

As a result, I am practicing the guitar on the couch in the living room while Jim draws in the kitchen. The guitar is a new interest of mine, and Jim is bearing with me as best he can. "It's all right," he says. "I'm not into perfectionism. I kind of like it crude and funky." Crude and funky is just what he gets, and I am quite touched by his enthusiasm when I finally play "Michael Rowed the Boat Ashore" without making a mistake. (Next lesson: "The House of the Rising Sun.")

Wednesday Afternoon, the River: Perhaps some things ought to change—the River is as filthy as it ever was, judging from all the yuck floating by. It's too bad. Although I'm not one of those pretentious designer queens who likes everything squeaky clean, still it would be nice to know I'm not swimming in Santa Rosa sewage water. And swim I must. I've never understood people who come to the area and never set foot (or any other body part, for that matter)

(Continued on next page)

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Mass. Gays Continue Protests

BOSTON—California isn't the only state conducting a "Duke Watch." Massachusetts is, too, with gays and lesbians watching their Duke, Gov. Michael Dukakis.

One year ago, Dukakis—normally considered a moderate to liberal Democrat, approved a state policy which denies gays and lesbians the right to become foster parents. Gays and lesbians haven't let the governor forget that faux pas either.

Recently, Dukakis presented awards to the AIDS Action Committee. The Massachusetts version of Duke Watch was on hand blasting the governor's anti-gay foster care policy and demanding both increased AIDS funding and "Foster Equality."

—The Gay Community News of Boston

Man with ARC Charges an HRC With Discrimination

WASHINGTON—Back in July, the United States Department of Justice said that AIDS doesn't have to be treated as a handicap by federal government or federally funded organizations. Shortly before this ruling came out, Human Rights Commissions all over the country were insisting that such a federal ruling would not affect them.

And, after the ruling, many HRCs were sticking to their guns.

"As far as we're concerned, AIDS is a handicap," said Olen

Strozier, acting administrator of the Alexandria, VA HRC.

Nice words, but don't tell that to Gregory Chigo. Chigo is a man with AIDS Related Complex. He has alleged that the Alexandria HRC termed him as a high risk and not eligible for services. Chigo said the commission did not say what they meant by the term "high risk." Linda Edwards further stated that the department denied the charges and said Chigo's case was still open. She added that the department doesn't have any official AIDS policy yet.

—Washington Blade

Ranks of Former Fundamentalists Grow

AUKLAND, N.Z.—"I'm Gary and I'm a fundamentalist. 'Hi, Gary.'"

That very well could be the dialogue of a meeting for Fundamentalist Anonymous (FA). FA is an organization established to help those who have built up fears and anxieties through their experiences with fundamentalist Christianity. The organization announced recently that a media blitz of information has paid off in an increase in members.

Over 10,000 responses have been received from people seeking help. Pleas have come from Canada, Great Britain, Australia, Panama, Kenya, the Bahamas, South Africa, the Philippines, and New Zealand. Ironically, the organization has used fundamentalist tactics, advertising heavily on television. And, they have received excellent support from many mainline Christian churches.

Many of the world-wide chap-

Missouri Becomes 1st State To Cite Supreme Court Ruling

JEFFERSON CITY, MO—The state of Missouri became the first state to cite the recent Supreme Court ruling which upheld the Georgia sodomy law. The Supreme Court of Missouri overturned a St. Louis Circuit Court decision which dismissed a charge of sexual misconduct against an allegedly gay man.

Back in 1985, Hubert Walsh was alleged to have touched the genitalia of Det. Steven Zielinski during a case some gays claim was a clear-cut case of entrapment. According to a report, Walsh's conduct was a "substantial step toward the commission of the crime of sexual misconduct with Det. Zielinski and was done for the purpose of committing such sexual misconduct."

Missouri law states that "a person commits the crime of sexual misconduct if . . . he has deviate sexual intercourse with another person of the same sex."

St. Louis County Circuit Court Judge Susan Block dismissed the charge of misconduct against Walsh, but after the Georgia ruling in

Washington, the legal wheels started spinning in Jefferson City. The Missouri Supreme Court, by a 5-2 decision, overturned Block's ruling and sent the case back to the lower courts. Missouri Supreme Court Justice Robert T. Donnelly cited the recent *Bowers vs. Hardwick* Supreme Court case, saying "The [Supreme] Court has held that the United States Constitution does not confer upon consenting homosexuals a fundamental right to engage in sodomy."

The nine-page ruling contains some extremely anti-gay statements. "It cannot be doubted," according to the ruling, "that historically homosexuals have been subjected to antipathy [and] prejudice, but so have other classes whose members have violated society's legal and moral codes of conduct."

"It's very unfortunate for the people living in Missouri," said Abby Rubinfeld, legal director of the Lambda Defense and Education Fund, who added that the ruling "goes far beyond the limits of the case."

—The New York Native

ters have been meeting in free space provided by mainstream churches and the National Office of FA in the United States. The organization can be contacted by calling (212) 969-0420 in New York or by writing to P.O. Box 20324, Greeley Square Station, New York, NY 10001.

Out! of New Zealand



Castro College Program Expanded

City College of San Francisco and the Centers Division of the College District are offering a wide variety of credit and non-credit courses at their Castro/Valencia site. "Castro/Valencia has grown from two classes in 1980 in the gym of the Metropolitan Church to 27 courses at the present site at 450 Church," said Dr. Juanita Owens, assistant director.

Registration will begin at 6:30 on August 18th and will continue for two weeks at 450 Church between 16th and 17th Streets. The Center classes are free and there is a \$5 per unit fee for City College classes of 1-5 units. For further information contact Ed Bedecarrax or Lindy McKnight at 558-9987 (evenings only).

Classes of specific interest to the gay and lesbian community are the core of the Castro/Valencia program. They include gay culture, options for men over 40, midlife: career in crisis, self-defense, challenge for women over 40.

Three other new classes are planned: exercise and relaxation, women in management, and fundraising for community agencies. returning will be: landscape design and construction, home repair, income tax preparation,

sign language, small business bookkeeping, creative writing, effective stress management, and small business management. Two classes are planned in English as a second language (basic and intermediate).

All the Center's classes are free with open enrollment. All one does is turn up for the first class. A minimum of fifteen students is required to start a class and keep it going. All classes begin at 6:30 p.m., and most are one evening per week. Also offered is career counseling, available on Monday nights.

The Castro/Valencia classes take place at 450 Church (between 16th and 17th Streets), Everett Middle School. Times and beginning dates are available in the Community College class schedule. A phone at the site will be in operation beginning Aug. 18 (after 6 p.m.).

Hippler

(Continued from page 11)

near the River itself.

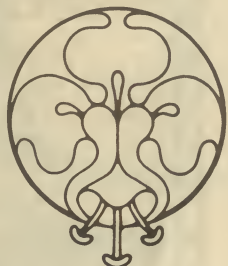
Actually, my favorite way to experience the River is from a canoe. That way I feel like I'm accomplishing something and enjoying myself at the same time. (God forbid I should just enjoy myself.) I get sun, I get exercise, I get to swim, and I get to explore the river banks (and the sun-bathers thereon). I also get to be called names. Walking, it is easy to avoid the places where punk teenagers hang out; canoeing, it is not. "Hey faggot," one called to me once, "I bet you like to suck dick, don't you?" "Well, I sure as hell don't eat pussy," I shot back, without stopping to think that my women friends might consider this offensive. Even on the River, as elsewhere it seems, there is no escape from intolerance. Was there ever?

Well hell, I still like the place. I think I always will. Friends point out that compared to Fire Island, Key West, or Provincetown, it is a sorry excuse for a gay resort, but I cannot agree. I like

redwood trees. I like the fog. I like the spectacular scenery at River's end, and I even like Fife's. Long before gay people discovered the place, and long after (God forbid) we forsake it, these things will endure (maybe even Fife's). I find comfort in this, not stagnation. And if my tomorrows are beginning to resemble my yesterdays, at least I've still got tomorrows.

★ ★ ★

Someone called the other day, concerned about my "recommendation" of hydrogen peroxide douches and demanding a retraction. Douching with hydrogen peroxide, he claimed, can cause "severe cramping, painful bowel movements, and internal bleeding." Maybe so. Unfortunately, I cannot retract what I did not recommend. I merely stated that Rick Donovan's on-screen partners use hydrogen peroxide douches as a safe sex measure. As much as I enjoy Rick Donovan's films, I do not turn to them for safe sex guidelines, and neither, I suggest, should anyone else. For starters, I wear rubbers. But then, unlike Mr. Donovan, I can fit into them.



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Duke, Kizer Mum On 'LaRouche'

No Stand Expected On Prop. 64 Until Late October, Says Aide

by George Mendenhall

Gov. George Deukmejian and his health director, Dr. Kenneth Kizer, evidently will not take an early position on the LaRouche Initiative.

Bill Ihle, press chief for Kizer, has told *Bay Area Reporter* "It is my understanding that the administration's positions on state ballot measures will all be announced at the same time by the governor." This would mean Deukmejian would hold until his staff has analyzed all 13 of the November ballot propositions—possibly as late as October.

Ihle also indicated a later decision on Prop. 64 when he said: "There will be time to take a position on this later. It is still several months away." (Just over two months is more accurate.) He indicated that there was "nothing political" about the delay.

Deukmejian is expected to rely partly on Kizer, who is his top medical advisor, for guidance. Kizer recently showed his public concern over Delta Airlines' refusal to allow an unattended person with AIDS to travel when he demanded an explanation. Ihle said that the "normally calm and reasoned" Kizer was also "very upset" when his name appeared in the pro-64 argument for the initiative but he was unsuccessful in an attempt to have his name removed. The proponents had accurately reported that Kizer called for more testing and reporting. He claimed his comments were "misused."

LEGAL VICTORY

The first major victory for the anti-64 forces in the initiative campaign happened last week when a Sacramento Superior Court judge removed three

sentences from the pro-64 voters handbook argument. The three sentences removed were:

- "AIDS is not hard to get; it is easy to get."
- "Potential insect and respiratory transmission has been established by numerous studies."
- "Transmission by 'casual contact' is well established."

Secretary of State March Fong Eu, in filing the action, called the statements "blatantly false," and cited medical evidence to the contrary from San Francisco's former health director, Dr. Mervyn Silverman. She called the ruling "a victory for California voters and a landmark for voters' rights and taxpayers because the legal system declared it will not tolerate tax-funded publication to misrepresent facts upon which voters rely to make their ballot decision." Eu's action was a first for California.

In his decision, Judge James Ford said: "We must avoid instilling fear. There is no evidence AIDS is transmitted by casual contact." He added that the LaRouche's contention that "there is no proof that AIDS is

not transmitted through casual contact is like saying there's no evidence to show that John Doe is not an ax murderer."

The strange AIDS theories of Lyndon LaRouche came from the man himself. On July 11, he said the AIDS epidemic "is a conspiracy engineered by the Soviet Union and there is no question that it can be transmitted by mosquitoes." Speaking calmly on a KGO radio telephone interview, he urged "In the pneumatic phase of AIDS, it is approximately as communicable as tuberculosis"—indicating AIDS is spread through the air. Medical authorities called in to the talk program to vehemently refute LaRouche's comments. LaRouche then called the medical experts "liars."

Prop. 64 calls for AIDS to be listed as an infectious, contagious and communicable disease—which could lead to the quarantining of AIDS patients and the testing of anyone suspected of having the disease. However, there is a continuing debate as to what real effect the measure would have as it is vaguely written and would be open to interpretation in the courts.

ANALYST EXPLAINS?

The voters handbook will include an explanation of Prop. 64 from the non-partisan state legislative analyst. In a five-page commentary, it states that the measure will probably have little if any effect. But it also emphasizes that if the courts ruled that its provisions were mandatory, the law could be very restrictive and cost the state hundreds of millions of dollars. The mixed commentary leaves the voter more confused. A Stop LaRouche official, Peter Scott, said "This indicates that we're dealing with such a badly written piece of legislation that even the legislative analyst can't understand it."

Many voters may have to decide on Prop. 64 by reading the rhetoric in the voters handbook arguments:

- The submitted pro argument is that the AIDS virus is everywhere, there is no cure, and "it is 100 percent lethal." It calls for the designation of AIDS as a communicable disease and concludes: "Politicians and special interest groups have circumvented the public health laws. For the first time in our history, a deadly disease is being treated as a 'civil rights' issue, rather than a public health issue. The medical facts are clear. The law is clear. Common sense agrees. You and your family have the right to be protected from all contagious diseases, including AIDS—the deadliest of them all." It is signed by Khushro Ghandi, identified as a member of the National Democratic Policy Committee (a LaRouche front group) and Dr. John Grauerholz, a pathologist.

- The anti-64 argument urges that health decisions should be made by the medical profession rather than political extremists, that the fear of quarantining could lead to more AIDS cases as people would fear being identified—and thus lose their jobs, that it would cost billions of dollars to enforce. It concludes: "Californians can be proud that doctors and public health officials have acted in a professional, rational and responsible manner to protect the health of Californians and have taken all appropriate precautions as they are needed. This kind of initiative can only divide, create panic and force thousands not to get tested or treated because of fear."

Labor Joins Battle Against LaRouche

by George Mendenhall

November slate cards announcing labor's position on state ballot measures will include a strong No on 64 stand. They will be mailed to the 1.6 million members of the state AFL-CIO, which took that position at its July meeting in Sacramento. Numerous AFL-CIO affiliates and the California Nurses Association have joined the campaign. The Central Labor Councils in San Francisco and Alameda counties have also attacked the LaRouche measure.

Several major union leaders have spoken out in the past week on Prop. 64. "The LaRouche initiative would open up a witch hunt," AFL-CIO executive secretary John Henning told his members. Henning said "the witch hunt" would include the labor work force and "make containment of AIDS more difficult than ever."

Joining in condemning the measure was the president of the United Farm Workers of America, Cesar Chavez. "Our union views this initiative as a threat to the job security and public health of every California citizen. We're resolved to bury the initiative," said Chavez.

Unions joining the state AFL-CIO position include the state's largest union, the 250,000 Service Employees International Union (SEIU), plus the Southwestern Regional Council of United Food and Commercial Workers, Teamsters Joint Council 7, Retail Clerks Locals 410 and 1100, and the Communication

Workers of America, Local 9410.

Howard Wallace, longtime gay labor activist, explains that it is not accidental that labor is uniting behind the No on 64 effort. "Many recognized early that we backed the boycott against Coors beer and they saw the possible violation of teachers rights when they opposed Prop. 6 in 1978," said Wallace. "They now recognize because we are explaining it to them that Prop. 64 would mean people could lose their jobs just on the basis of discrimination."

The local Lesbian and Gay Labor Alliance which has been active in picketing and demonstrating for union causes has brought union recognition of gay issues.

Wallace and his Labor Task Force for No on 64 solicits endorsements and funds from labor unions. He wants labor activists to contact him at 431-1522. The Labor Task Force is located at 510 Harrison Street, San Francisco, 94105.

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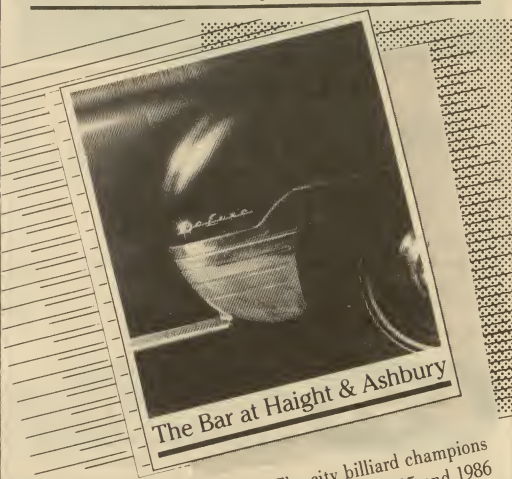
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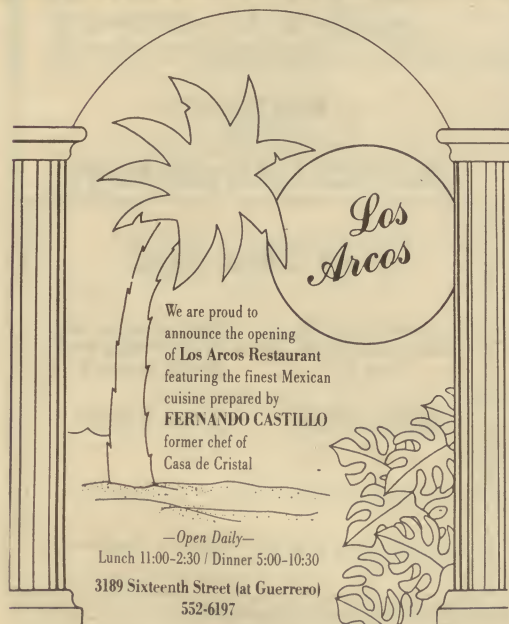
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Dyke Wins Title; Lust Takes Duchess

by Allen White

A lesbian, Mike D. Dyke, has been elected the 13th Grand Duke of San Francisco and Lola Lust is the 14th Grand Duchess. The results of the balloting ten days ago were announced last Saturday night, Aug. 9, to a capacity crowd at Bimbo's 365 Club.

The new duke won the title by a margin of only 15 votes. The other two candidates were Bruce Harrelson and Tony Gonzales. The duchess contest pitted Lola Lust against Miss Piggy.

Mike D. Dyke represents a statement of the social change in the gay movement. Significantly, Mike D. Dyke was not elected because of any turnout by women. Women did not vote in strong numbers according to several people working the voting site. The win can be attributed to the strong respect men had for Mike D. Dyke, who has worked diligently on community projects for several years.

Another factor in this year's royal election was the total number of votes. Last year almost one thousand votes were cast to elect Tony Trevizo and Deena Jones. This year less than 450 people voted. The primary reason was the use of only one election site at the Operation Concern office. Last year the voting was done at 18th and Castro and on Polk Street.

The actual vote count for Duke gave Mike D. Dyke 186 votes followed by Bruce Harrelson with 171 and Tony Gonzales with 80. The slim victory margin might have been reversed with a larger number of votes.

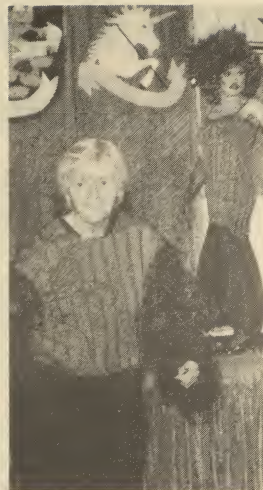
The candidates for grand duchess were Miss Piggy and Lola Lust. Miss Piggy gave the crowd a presentation featuring her version of *Maybe Next Time* which was not prophetic. Miss Piggy is to drag

what Harold Stassen is to politics and both have run for an elective office more than could be counted.

Lola Lust goes for a certain ambience that might be described as Tenderloin spectacular. The newly crowned duchess surrounds herself with many men wearing very little. Lola Lust then makes an entrance with more fabric than the grand drape at the Opera House. It's quite a show.

The two serious moments of the evening came close to the end of the event. First there was the presentation of Duchess Frau. Frau was Grand Duchess seven years ago. Negotiating steps in a walker is rough and when it's on a stage in front of hundreds of people it takes courage. The determination to overcome a physical challenge was recognized by a standing ovation from the audience.

Moments later a special award was given in honor of Grand Duchess XII Trixie Trash. The popular duchess died earlier this year and an award was created to honor her contributions to the gay community. This first presentation was made to Carol Norseworthy who heads the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Foodbank.



Mike D. Dyke (Photo: Rink)



Lola Lust (Photo: Rink)

Duke and duchess coronations are not known for their speed or quick pacing. Endurance counts and last Saturday night the committee headed by Michael Jones and Sandy Sorrelles clipped a full hour off the previous year's event. Coronation '86 lasted only five hours.

Bradley Raps Duke On AIDS Cuts

Accuses Gov. of 'Lack of Compassion'

by Charles Linebarger

Gubernatorial candidate Tom Bradley visited San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury Clinic last week and accused Gov. George Deukmejian of a "lack of compassion or concern" for people with AIDS. He pointed to the spread of AIDS through IV drug use in New York as a sign that California should prepare for a similar drug-related epidemic here.

"George Deukmejian vetoed \$3 million to combat the spread of AIDS through IV drug abuse," said Bradley at a press conference following his tour of the clinic. "Even his own director of health services, Dr. Kenneth Kizer, three months before the governor's veto, said that IV drug use is a primary risk factor for contracting AIDS. His (Deukmejian's) veto showed that he has learned nothing," said Bradley.

Bradley said that over one-third of the AIDS cases in New York are among heterosexual needle users, a figure that would be even higher if gay needle users were computed into the numbers.

Again scoring Deukmejian's record on AIDS, Bradley said, "In 1981, California had a handful of diagnosed AIDS cases and it was difficult for a few medical experts to convince us a disaster was coming. Five years later and over 5000 cases later, we should have learned something from this dreadful disease."

The \$3 million Deukmejian vetoed in June had been aimed at substance abuse programs around the state that were working with people at risk for AIDS. In San Francisco, over \$100,000 of that money had been earmarked for 18th Street Services, a drug program that primarily works with gay men. If Deukmejian's veto is not overturned in Sacramento, San Francisco will probably be called on to make up the difference so that the gay drug agency won't be forced to close its doors.

Bradley was insistent that the AIDS budget that Deukmejian vetoed be passed again by the legislature this term. "Senate and Assembly Democrats will reintroduce the funding measure next week. I hope the bill will quickly reach Deukmejian's desk. And I hope that George Deukmejian signs the measure into law before California catches up with the devastating trend set by New York," said Bradley.



Tom Bradley (Photo: Rink)

Bradley also attacked Deukmejian for his veto of the AIDS bias bill (AB 3667) in July. "I think it was unconscionable and a sign of his lack of compassion or concern for people. He said that there was no evidence of a need but we have clear evidence in California and elsewhere.

On the ejection of a man with AIDS from a Delta Airlines flight recently Bradley said, "It's another demonstration of discriminatory action that justifies educating people about the nature of this virus."

A poll recently taken in California shows that Bradley is now favored by 41 percent of the state's voters, compared to 52 percent for Deukmejian. That is an increase of 5 percent for Bradley since late May and a drop of 2 percent for Deukmejian for the same time period. The poll showed a seven-point drop from the lead held by Deukmejian in late May and an eleven-point drop from the lead he held in early May.

Anchors Aweigh, My Boys!

Barbary Coast Boating Club Comes Out of the Closet

by Chuck Jungi

Gay boating in Northern California has been one of the best kept secrets in San Francisco. "We've never kept the club a secret by design," explained Bob, the chairman of Barbary Coast Boating Club's (BCBC) newly formed publicity committee, "we have always just kept a low profile."

BCBC was founded five years ago and has grown into a major yacht club on the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento Delta. In a recent article, *Latitude 38*, a leading Northern California boating magazine, stated that BCBC's "membership participation and schedule would make most yacht clubs envious."

"The club is a supportive atmosphere to enjoy boating," said Richard, BCBC's vice commodore, who has owned seven boats with his lover Don. "We just like to be out on the water and what better place to do it than with a group of gay people who are fun and respect your boat."

BCBC activities include monthly meetings at the Berkeley Yacht Club, a host of committee meetings, monthly raft-ups in both the Bay and the Delta, an anniversary party at a local hotel, Christmas party, and an Opening Day celebration that this year drew more than 175 members and guests and 16 boats.

BCBC is one of the larger boating clubs in Northern California, gay or straight. With over 160 members from San Francisco, San Jose, and Sacramento area and a fleet of 80 boats, BCBC is believed to be the largest gay yacht club in the world. "BCBC is for all shapes and sizes," explained Sheldon, BCBC's commander, as he played with his plastic duck ear-ring at the official Memorial Day Raft-Up Junk Food Cocktail Party. "We have all sorts of gay people in the club, young or old, rich and poor, and it does not matter. I could point out a couple of vice presidents of major companies or a couple of stock clerks; the only thing that matters is that they love boating."

But some things do matter, boat safety and consideration. "We are standing on a large investment," continued Sheldon, the owner of the 57 foot Hatteras motor yacht that was hosting the party. "I want people in the club who will respect and take care of my boat." Just then a dinghy with four members in it arrived pulling another dinghy full of popcorn, and Sheldon was off to review the latest batch of junk food.

All is not just fun though. "We have a responsibility to our members to offer an educational program to make them better boaters," explained Paul, who coordinates speakers for the monthly membership meeting. "The topics have ranged from boating insurance and financing, osmosis of fiberglass, the Power Squadron, to the use of Tupperware in the galley. A speaker should not consider this group unknowledgeable. Everyone is polite but there are quite a few professionals and long time boaters in this club. They know when someone is not prepared or is trying to pull the wool over our eyes."

Professional members, especially those involved in high security technical projects, are concerned about their anonymity. "We do not release the names of our members without their individual permission," explained Cary, the club secretary. "Some people feel they could lose their jobs, so we have different classifications of security. Some people's names are not even listed on our club roster that is only available to the club members and includes only the names and phone numbers of the members."

BCBC is not localized in either the Delta or the Bay, with an almost even split between sail and motor yachts. Between the Bay and the Delta, the club has many activities in both locations. Even the Chubby Easter Chicken (the Easter Bunny was reported to be mugged) joined us and passed out eggs. In May, 14 boats and 45 members met at Pier 39 for potluck dinner and tickets to *Beach Blanket Babylon*.

So how has the rest of the boating community accepted a gay yacht club? "We never go anywhere that we didn't first inform the management that we are a gay boating club," explained Sheldon. "If there is a problem we just take our gay business elsewhere."



There's nothing like fun in the water.

(Photo: B. Bridge)

"Sure we've raised some eyebrows when other boats sail by," continued Bob, "but it is good for their understanding of the gay community to see gay people

enjoying a traditionally family sport."

BCBC is accepting applications for membership from men and women boaters. For more in-

formation please write the Barbary Coast Boating Club, 511 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Suite C-167, Greenbrae, CA 94904 or call (415) 237-1213.

A MESSAGE ABOUT AIDS FOR THE MALE ATHLETES & VISITORS TO GAY GAMES II

Welcome to San Francisco and Gay Games II. Gay Games II will be a thrilling and inspiring series of events for all of us. We wish you a wonderful visit. We're glad you're here.

Please remember, though, that we are in the midst of a deadly sexually-transmitted epidemic. No one wants to see a worldwide increase in the cases of AIDS as a legacy of such a positive and healthy occasion. **The sexual precautions men need to take are simple and absolutely essential.**

Please don't have Unsafe Sex while you're here. In the face of this epidemic, most gay and bisexual men in San Francisco will refuse to have Unsafe Sex. Those who are still willing to have Unsafe Sex are extremely likely to be sexually contagious. **The only way to stop the virus is to stop Unsafe Sex**—especially anal sex without a condom, the

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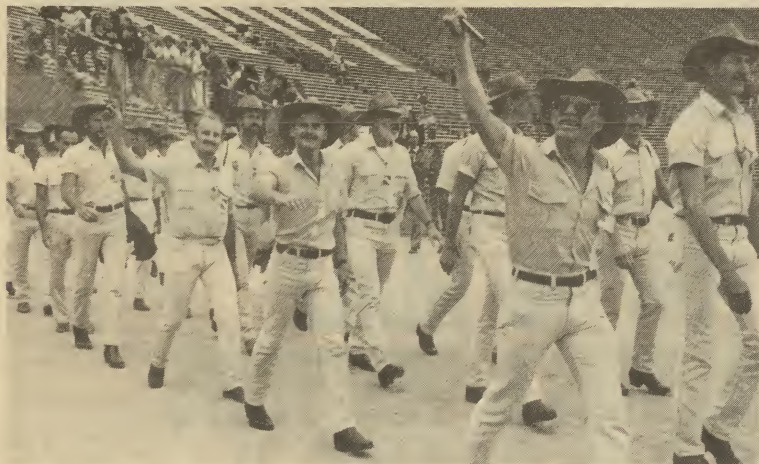
Major funding for the educational programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health



A Gay Games usher (Photo: Savage Photography)



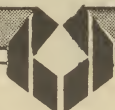
Kezar Stadium went up in colored smoke bombs as the Opening Ceremonies ended. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



The Australian Contingent (Photo: R. Pruzan)



The ceremonies were signed for the hearing-impaired. (Photo: Savage Photography)



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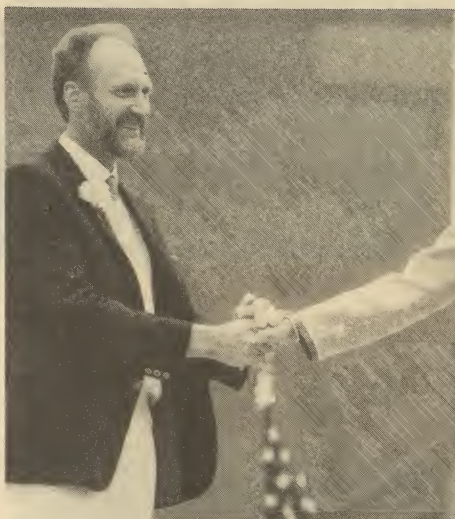
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Love in a flag

(Photo: M. Hicks)



Mayor Feinstein praised Dr. Tom Waddell, left.



(Photo: M. Hicks)



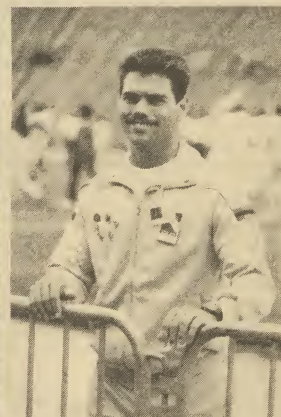
The Widow Norton, Jose Sarria, arrives.
(Photo: Savage Photography)

'...From All Walks Of Life



Canadian and Mexican athletes on the field

(Photo: R. Pruzan)



A San Francisco athlete
(Photo: R. Pruzan)



New Zealand visitor Debbie Randall got a job selling beer.
(Photo: Savage Photography)



The S.F. Gay Body-Building team poses for photographers
(Photo: R. Pruzan)



MC's Scott Beach and Rita Mae Brown (Photo: R. Pruzan)

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FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Patrick McGrew

Saving the Past to Build the Future

by Paul Zomchek

Patrick McGrew, president of San Francisco's Landmarks Board, says the manner in which landmarks are designated in San Francisco now differs from how landmarks were designated prior to his appointment as the board's president by Mayor Dianne Feinstein. McGrew has been on the board for about eight years and was originally appointed as a Landmarks Board member by Mayor George Moscone in 1978.

"George Moscone was interested in trying to broaden the base of the commissions and bring in people who had not ordinarily had a voice in how the city was run," said McGrew. McGrew had applied for a vacancy on the Landmarks Board during the Alioto era, which was a time when he and others believed the city was run by "insiders and downtown types."

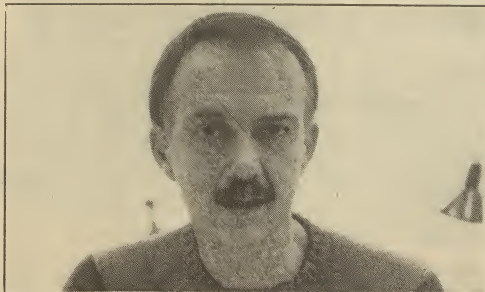
Said McGrew, "When George Moscone was elected mayor he appointed many people who had really been on the outside. Moscone said, 'Look, you guys have been yelling at city government for years, why don't you come inside and have a try.'"

Our conversation, appropriately, took place in McGrew's architectural office in a Willis Polk building downtown among many historical buildings and highrises.

His background is in highrises, however, as he put it, he has "spun-off on his own." Models and plans of private dwellings line his office, as well as a picture of his daughter, and one of himself with Mayor Feinstein.

McGrew let me flip through a book of photographs of San Francisco landmarks while he explained a brief history of preservationists and Landmark Boards in San Francisco. "The first rank of preservationists is traditionally little old ladies. But, you should never underestimate those women because they basically got the preservation movement rolling. Beyond that group I would venture to say that the second largest group of preservationists are, by-and-large, gay."

McGrew believes part of the reason why gays are so apt to be involved with preservation is that



Patrick McGrew

(Photo: P. Zomchek)

they have been involved with gentrification of the neighborhoods here in San Francisco. "In some ways we are outside the mainstream, so we go into neighborhoods that are, perhaps, less than desirable and restore them. Sometimes this can be very negative in terms of displacement," said McGrew.

He says, however, landmark emphasis has now been taken away from saving single Victorians and placed on downtown. The Victorians are now desirable and people are more than happy to restore them.

"What we do on the Landmarks Board is evaluate the buildings around the city and figure which ones are historically and architecturally the most important. Then we designate them as landmarks or as historic districts if there are groups."

All that really means is the designated buildings can't be

torn down for a year. But, fortunately no landmark has ever been torn down, says McGrew. The year-long designations give preservationists time to find an alternative to demolition or find someone who wants to buy the building.

McGrew feels some landmark commissions have been honor societies. "I have nothing against honor societies, but I see our staff as a planning tool. I feel that if we would use all our resources designating Victorians, whose futures are not at stake, and just ignore downtown, we would be wasting our time. I didn't want to sit on a board that did that." When McGrew came to the board there were literally only a handful of downtown buildings designated as landmarks. So his board started designating buildings downtown.

The fact that many buildings downtown were not designated in

the past caused quite a disturbance because every time someone went to the planning commission there had to be hearings and media attention, says McGrew. "So I think in some ways that triggered the downtown plan that started dealing comprehensively with all those buildings."

"With the downtown plan, which is a much stronger plan, there are about 250 buildings that are literally protected forever. The downtown plan is actually stronger than any other plan the Landmarks Board has ever put together," said McGrew.

In talking to McGrew about landmarks in the city it is obvious that he has a masterful grasp of his work. He feels his own gayness had little or nothing to do with his appointment to the board. And he hopes it is his excellence and professionalism in the field of architecture which put him on the board.

He has lived in San Francisco 21 years. At one time he considered opening "a gay practice" in architecture, but realized there wasn't enough support there since he wasn't much involved with the community. "Once I took out a three month advertisement in *The Advocate* and the responses I received from that were zip," noted McGrew. He says that he doesn't really advertise himself as a gay architect. After all, "you wouldn't go to a brain surgeon because he was gay, you go to a brain surgeon because he's good." ●

Phyllis Lyon

She Opened Gates To Let Progress In

by Marc Slavin

If there is a founding mother of the lesbian community in the United States, it may well be Phyllis Lyon. As an organizer of the first lesbian rights organization, the Daughters of Bilitis, and author (with her lover of 33 years, Del Martin) of the pioneering book, *Lesbian Woman*, Lyon has been a driving force in the lesbian and gay community since before much of any community existed.

Now serving on the San Francisco Human Rights Commission and the board of directors of the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, Lyon settled in San Francisco with Martin in 1953. They rented an apartment on Castro between 19th and 20th Streets for \$65 a month.

Since the formation of the Daughters of Bilitis in 1955, Lyon has worked to create an honest public understanding of lesbians.

"There has always been more attention paid to gay men with the bias of 'How do we find out what causes this awful thing and how do we cure it,'" she said. "Society saw lesbians, if it saw us at all, as not important, because we're only women. But men who gave up male power and became woman-like—well, the attitude was 'We ought to do something about that.'"

Lyon, Martin and a few friends

formed the Daughters of Bilitis as a social alternative to the North Beach bars where lesbian couples, exempt from the cover charge, were considered part of the floor show, there to draw the tourists.

With an initial membership of four couples, the group began to hold so-called public discussion meetings, where closeted lesbians could come and "pretend to be the public" and listen to speakers and decide whether they wanted to join, said Lyon.

Early public discussions led to peer counseling and soon the social group was helping closeted lesbians overcome the deeply ingrained stigma of seeing themselves as "illegal, immoral and sick," she said.

"It was a very scary time, a lot like it is in Georgia today," said Lyon. To protect her identity as editor of the Bilitis newsletter, *The Ladder*, Lyon used a pseudonym.



Phyllis Lyon (l.) and Del Martin

(Photo: Rink)

By 1972 when *Lesbian Woman* was published, Lyon and Martin were using their real names. The first honest account of lesbian life in America, the book shook stereotypes to their foundation and "opened the gates to slow progress" toward greater public understanding of lesbians, she said.

Lyon and Martin were inundated with letters and phone calls from lesbians across the country for whom the mere act of buying such a book at the supermarket checkout stand was an act of courage.

In 1976, Mayor George Moscone appointed Lyon to the Human Rights Commission which oversees San Francisco's antidiscrimination ordinances. The commission is widely regarded as one of the most active and powerful governmental bodies in the country to deal with minority issues.

"I've always felt that the gay community has overlooked the value and power of the Human Rights Commission," Lyon said. "It is the only agency there is to defend anyone discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation. We don't have AB-I. We don't have a statewide AIDS law. What we have is the commission." It is a far cry from the days when "we could never get anyone in City Hall to speak to us."

The watershed event that led to governmental recognition that gays and lesbians existed was the arrest of four people, three of them attorneys for the newly formed Council on Religion and the Homosexual, at the Gay Drag Ball on Jan. 1, 1965.

The council, a coalition of progressive ministers and gays and lesbians from San Francisco, including Lyon, was the first organization to use the word "homosexual" in its title, and the first to be

granted non-profit status by the IRS.

The council-sponsored ball provided members of the religious community with an opportunity to witness the kind of official harassment gays and lesbians were constantly subject to.

Pressure from the ministers led to the appointment of officer Eliot Blackstone as liaison between the gay community and the police department. "From then on," Lyon said, "people had to talk to us."

"But now the general climate seems like we're going back to the 1950s when Joe McCarthy was screaming about sex deviates and Communists. There are a lot of similarities in this right wing atmosphere," said Lyon.

"What we have now, though, is an organization. People willing to stand up and speak and support us even if they're straight. In the fifties, even fellow actors wouldn't support the ones who were blacklisted."

"We may lose some battles, but there's no way they can push us back. When Del and I wrote the updated version to *Lesbian Woman* (covering 1972 to 1982), we found that despite Anita Bryant and all the ordinance votes we lost all over the country, we still had won more than we had lost by the end of the ten years."

"History comes in cycles," she said. "I would like to see an end to this backlash by the time I leave this planet. We have to continue to be a presence, to educate. We can never take it for granted that people know who lesbians and gay men are. The stereotypes are still out there." ●

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DEATHS

Alan Renoud

Alan Renoud, president of Front-Runners, passed away on July 18 at the age of 41. Alan died in his sleep at Kaiser Permanente, South San Francisco, following a two-week hospitalization.

Diagnosed with AIDS on April 11, 1985, Alan remained stoic throughout his illness, never complaining about his condition. While many would have retreated from the outside world, Alan chose to become involved with the People With AIDS/ARC Switchboard, a service provided by the AIDS Foundation and People With AIDS San Francisco.

He also became more involved with FrontRunners which culminated in his election as president last January. All who knew Alan will remember him as a kind-hearted and fun-loving individual who loved running. In his prime, there wasn't a year he didn't run a few marathons.

Alan is survived by his parents, Leila and Gleason Renoud from Sacramento; his best friend Chris, now president of the FrontRunners; David, John and Del, Steve, Dave, Michael and Dave, former lovers of his; his many friends in FrontRunners and Castagnola's, where he had been tending bar for several years until his illness.

According to his wishes, Alan was cremated and his remains were dispersed in San Francisco Bay near Angel Island on July 23. Donations in Alan's memory may be made at the AIDS Emergency Fund (1550 California St., Suite 3, S.F. 94109).

Paul Cabral

Paul died on Aug. 6 at home in S.F. of AIDS. Originally from Cambridge, Mass., he was much loved by his dear mother Laura and other immediate family members sisters Barbara, Dolores, brother Robert and father who still reside there.



A young lady when recommending him for a position once remarked, "Anybody who doesn't like Paul, there must be something wrong with them." That was the way he was.

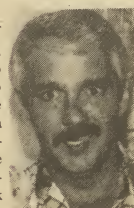
Paul received wonderful 24-hours Hospices attendant care. Please make any contributions to them. All your friends, Mike M., Uncle Robert, Jerry D., E.J., Bob D'H, Bob R. and myself will miss you, little buddy. Your friend, Roy.

Peter F. Sullivan III

Our friend, Peter, passed away peacefully at 1:45 p.m. on Aug. 1, after a short battle with AIDS. Larry, Ron and Randy were at his side at his passing.

A native of New Jersey, Peter moved to San Francisco on 1979, where he carved a home for himself. He will be long remembered for his quick wit, generosity and candor, as well as his steadfast devotion to those dear to him. Peter is survived by his father, Peter Sullivan, Jr., stepmother Dot, and a brother, Larry.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 6, at 11 a.m. at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond (at 18th), San Francisco. Memorial donations may be sent in his name to the Shanti Project, 890 Hayes Street, San Francisco 94117. ●



Mark Landsberger

With great sadness, we observe the passing of Mark Landsberger, a dear member of our community. On Thursday evening, Aug. 7, Mark finally succumbed in his 18-month battle against AIDS. He struggled against his disease with great courage and dignity.

Mark moved to San Francisco five years ago from his home town of Jericho, N.Y. Always a tireless student, he enjoyed a most distinguished academic career, graduating in 1976 with honors from Dartmouth University followed by an MBA from Harvard. He put his education to good use when he came to the Bay Area to assume the post of Materials Manager for Atari. During 1985, deteriorating health tragically interrupted his flourishing career.

Mark's family and friends will never forget his colorful sense of humor, his tireless energy and his warm and friendly personality. His easy-going manner insured that he was always surrounded by dozens of close friends. In illness, he was deserted by no one. His friends found it a joy to cook his food, care for his needs, and give him love and encouragement. We will miss him deeply.

Mark is survived by his parents Lillian and Jerry, his sister Joan and many loving friends. A memorial service will be held Sunday, Aug. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli. Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Shanti Project, 890 Hayes St., San Francisco 94117 or to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's AIDS Fund, 220 Danvers, San Francisco 94117.

Ware Smith

Ware R. Smith, 51, died on July 19 in Oakland's Providence Hospital, after a one-year struggle with AIDS.



Ware was educated at Kenyon College (BA), the University of California, Berkeley (MA), and the University of Iowa (PhD) in English Literature and American Studies. He had written numerous articles and lectured widely on the gay poet Hart Crane and Hart Crane's epic "The Bridge," on the blasted tree of Nineteenth Century American painting, and on surrealism and modernism in Twentieth Century photography and architecture. Ware taught at several colleges in Northern California, including S.F. City College, and in New York the past 15 years. Ware returned to his home in Berkeley in August, 1985, and continued to attend art exhibitions, dance, and symphony concerts until the last month of his life.

One man's life can touch so many others. Thank you for confronting life and for being a courageous mentor, Ware.

A poetry reading and memorial was held at the Berkeley Unitarian Chapel on July 22 for his numerous friends and relatives. Donations are directed to the American Cancer Society. Additional details can be obtained by contacting Robin Tichane, 648-2388.

Richard J. Puhr

A Funeral Mass was said for Richard Puhr on Monday, Aug. 11 at 9 a.m. at Mission Dolores Basilica, burial at Holy Cross Cemetery. Richard, age 59, of San Francisco was a retired teacher at Jefferson Elementary School in Daly City, ended a five-month struggle with AIDS on Friday, Aug. 8.

During his illness he served as an example of courage and bravery to all who knew him. He is survived by his brother, James Puhr, and sister, Loretta Larson. Services were directed by Comiskey-Roche Funeral Home, 3300 16th St., San Francisco, Ronald W. Brown, Director.

Gustavo A. Luna

Farewells were said Saturday, Aug. 9 as Gustavo Luna's ashes were scattered in the San Francisco Bay near Gustavo, age 41, of San Francisco passed away with AIDS on Thursday, Aug. 7. A native of Colombia, Gustavo was a self-employed contractor in San Francisco for ten years.



A loving man of great sharing and giving will be missed, but always with us, his family of many friends who love Gustavo dearly gave him a celebration of eternal happiness. God Bless Gustavo. He is survived by his brother Jose and sister Clara and cousin Blanca Rojas. Arrangements by Comiskey-Roche Funeral Home, 3300 16th St., San Francisco, Ronald W. Brown, Director.

Roger D. George

On Aug. 9, Roger entered a new life, leaving his loved ones to mourn his passing. Roger was always moving to the beat of his own unique and sometimes wild drum. His life was short but he always tried to live it to the fullest.

He was born in Illinois on July 12, 1944 and grew up in Oak Forest. He graduated from Northern Illinois University and was a member of Phi Delta Psi Fraternity.



For several years he taught school at Wentworth Junior High School and continued teaching in Arizona. He left teaching while living in Phoenix and joined the telephone system. He was employed by Pacific Bell for 12 years.

During his entire life he made friends with everyone who had the privilege to share a part of his life. He was a friend to all and always tried to be kind, sincere, and very loving to everyone. His parents Rose and Clarence George, sister Carole, niece Dayna, nephews Walter and Jimi, sister Janet, brother-in-law Jim, and especially his mate, friend and partner Richard Dorval will miss him dearly.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Aug. 12 under the direction of Tom Simpson Funeral Counselor with Fr. Andrew Walmsley officiating. Friends may make donations in Roger's memory to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., San Francisco. For additional information contact Tom Simpson Funeral Counselor at 626-3340.

Joe Madariaga

Joe passed away on the morning of Aug. 5 from AIDS complications. He died peacefully and in the arms of a loved one. Throughout his illnesses, Joe never lost his warmth, the twinkle in his eye, or his unique sense of humor.

Joe is well known here in the Bay Area for his charm, generosity, and diligent work. He is also quite popular in Chico where he and Ray, his lover for over ten years, together owned and operated Joe's "playground," RJ's 900 Cherry Street.

This bar became a place for Joe to share his humor, his love, and ultimately, his life. He will be sorely missed, fondly remembered, and mostly loved.

Goodbye, Joe.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Sisterspirit

Unifying S. Bay Women's Community

by Gerard Koskovich

The South Bay has "a large feminist community, but it's very scattered," says lesbian organizer Karen Hester as she stocks shelves at San Jose's first women's bookstore. "One of our goals is to try to bring more unity to the women's community."

Opened last month in the newly relocated Billy de Frank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, the shop is a project of Sisterspirit, a non-profit collective that aims "to support and propagate women's culture in the South Bay area," Hester said.

A Texan by birth, Hester came to San Jose in 1981 to enter the Women's Studies program at San Jose State University. Presently an employee of Phoenix, a progressive coffeehouse and bookstore in downtown San Jose, Hester is one of four women who organized Sisterspirit in 1984.

According to Hester, the collective achieved its initial success by arranging discount sales and classroom delivery of texts for San Jose State Women's Studies courses. During its first spring and summer, the group also organized successful Friday evening coffeehouses. Both programs remain on-going efforts for the collective.

"The first year (with the coffeehouse) we did almost all local women's entertainment," Hester recalled. "That was exciting — to discover that there were talented, creative women in San Jose."

According to Hester, the goal of the coffeehouse concerts is not simply entertainment.

"I think there's also a political commitment there," she explained. "We're one of the few places in the South Bay committed to bringing women together outside of the bars and really trying to create a network and sup-

port system in a different atmosphere."

The number of Sisterspirit volunteers has varied from the original four up to fifteen, Hester said. The collective currently involves eight women, among them businesspeople, engineers, a graphic artist, and a technical writer.

'We're one of the few places in the South Bay committed to bringing women together outside of the bars and really trying to create a network and support system in a different atmosphere.' —Karen Hester

"We want the collective to reflect the diversity of women in San Jose — sexual preference, racially, ethnically," Hester said. "What's ended up happening is that it's mostly white lesbians."



Karen Hester

(Photo: G. Koskovich)

"We still really believe that we need more diversity," she added. "And we do make a real effort to have the programming itself be multi-cultural with the hope that it will attract women of different cultures."

Hester said that members of Sisterspirit are delighted with their new home at the Billy de Frank Center. The collective sublets a sunny storefront room for its bookshop and has relocated its coffeehouse series to the Center's spacious meeting room directly adjacent.

"We're so excited to have a place we can call home and not to have to tote our books from my house to the coffeehouse," Hester said.

The Sisterspirit Bookstore will stock a broad range of feminist, lesbian, and other women's-interest titles, according to Hester, with a special emphasis on small press imprints and local authors. A selection of used

books and gay men's titles is available as well. The store will gladly place special orders for any book or record currently in print, she added.

Sisterspirit is also moving into more ambitious women's music production, Hester said. On August 8, the collective presented popular lesbian-feminist singer and songwriter Holly Near in San Jose.

Sisterspirit Bookstore is located in the Billy de Frank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Avenue (between Race and Lincoln) in San Jose. Hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 6-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 7-10 p.m.; Friday, 8-11 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 12-6 p.m.

For more information on Sisterspirit and its activities, call (408) 293-9372.

New Umbrella Group For San Mateo

by Marv. Shaw

ELLIPSE, Peninsula AIDS Services, is the new coordinating umbrella group for San Mateo County. It is completing its final organizational processes and is on the verge of getting funding, said Richard Gordon, treasurer of the temporary board and spokesperson for the fledgling body.

The acronymic title was chosen in part for its reference to the arching shape of an ellipse, Gordon explained. The letters stand for: (E) education, (L) long-term care, (L) love, (I) information, (P) practical support, (S) support groups, and (E) emotional support. The major goals are to provide whatever AIDS patients need in the way of advocacy and a broad range of services, plus providing information, referrals, and assistance to support groups.

ELLIPSE is modeled after Santa Clara County's ARIS, which got its start from the political action group BAYMEC, of which Gordon is chairperson. ELLIPSE began when San Mateo County Sup. Tom Nolan and representatives from the business community, the volunteer support group Buddies, and the Beacon of Hope organization met several times this spring to work out the objectives, frame the bylaws, incorporate as a tax-exempt group to search for start-up funds.

The money to begin came fortuitously when the group was contacted by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, which indicated strong interest in helping groups coping with the AIDS crisis. The amount of \$12,040 was pledged, and ELLIPSE will begin drawing on that fund in September.

Gordon indicated that the

money will be used for office rental and insurance, though some small part might be set aside for consultant service to the volunteers. The staff will be entirely volunteer, at least for the first year.

Plans will be made for local fundraising, with possible grants from governmental units and other foundations supplementing as opportunity allows. But primarily, Gordon emphasized, San Mateo County citizens will be appealed to for tax-deductible contributions and for participation in fundraising events.

ELLIPSE is operating presently with a temporary board: Chris Copola (pres. pro tem), Frank Knobloch, Ed Hilton, Stanley Vitalone, and Gordon. When organization is completed, the board will have eleven members.

Gordon lauded the assistance of ARIS, the AIDS Legal Referral Panel in San Francisco, the San Mateo County Health Office, which has recently completed training of 30 volunteers, and various lesbian and gay groups for their input. "Beacon of Hope and Buddies have done truly outstanding work particularly," he stated. It is a major intention of ELLIPSE to assist all such groups to to an even better job in the future.

ELLIPSE is currently looking for office space, preferably in the central section of the county.

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PECUNIARY PORTRAYAL (A Dispatching Nose?)

The financial report is in for "Barbecue: otp, btp, ftp." Sales of the donated beer and soda pop totaled \$626. Raffle tickets for the stuffed animals brought in an additional \$335. Some of the monies donated were responsible for all of the food, condiments, charcoal, etc.

After all receipts were liquidated, and when all donated monies were tallied, a grand total of \$1400 was the result. It was divided equally between the East Bay Assistance Fund and the Fairmont Hospital Canteen Fund.

Bravo to the "people" for a job well done. It's amazing just what can happen when everyone works and pulls together.

There is no reason that the same thing can't occur when the "people" start full bore on Adopt A House.

THE BIG DOZEN SOIREE (A Celebrating Nose)

Captioned as the Remember When? party, Revol celebrated its 12th Anniversary last weekend. It was a contest for the best presentation of someone's Remember When. Lots of people "remembered when," but only one "remembered" to present an entry! The grand prize was presented to that lone paladin; the second and third place prizes will be retained for a future jollification. Con-

gratulations to Paul (Pee Wee) O'Neil for his participation. I still can't understand why he druthered for the portable tape deck/radio/stereo/TV over the necktie or plastic money clip! Some wag handed out "I can't remember a thing" caps. But, alas, it was past the deadline.

Saturday evening featured hourly raffles, a free dinner for the handsome couple at table 11 (luck of the draw), and hours of sing-along at the piano with fabulous Cynthia Bythell. Quite a gal, she, and entertain she did!

Sunday evening featured a fabulous 75 pound steamship round, personally carved by "Becky" at the buffet; more hourly raffles; the awarding of the grand (and only) prize; and Cynthia Bythell doing cabaret. Cynthia isn't new to the East Bay, but this first (of many?) visit to Revol was certainly a crowd pleaser!

Bon vivant Manuel Oliver was the MC, and did quite an outstanding job of it, too! Some of the repartee between him, the audience, and yours truly, really can't be printed in this family newspaper.

It was suggested that next year the anniversary party be held earlier, and to avoid the unlucky 13, call it the 12,999 Anniversary Party.

APPEARANCE AGENDA (A "Docket" Nose?)

Big Mama's Sunday Cabaret is still going strong. Closing the

August season, on Aug. 24, will be The Best of Music and Comedy, with Robert Erickson and multiple award-winner Tom Amiano. Beginning the September season, on Sept. 7, Aldo Bell (*Whole Lot of Bessie in Me*) returns with comedian Erin O'Connor. All performances begin at 4 p.m.

The Last of the Thursday Evening Summer Series will be on Aug. 21, when Joseph Taro brings back his musical comedy variety show with Ted Pinkston on the piano, and featuring none other than Hayward's own Steve Franciscon.

There is never a cover charge for the cabaret shows, and reservations are unnecessary because it's the early birds who get the best seats!

OMNIUM-GATHERUM (A Motley Nose!)

Suzie's birthday party is this Saturday at the Town & Country. She prefers that no presents be presented — just money!

If I remember correctly, the 8th Anniversary of the Lake Lounge is this Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 16 and 17. As of this writing, no "out-of-house" advertising has been visible.

The Leo/Luau at the Turf Club is this weekend, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 16 and 17. Costumed entries will be judged on Most Outrageous, Most Original, and Most Creative. A free tropical buffet will be served following the

awards on Sunday, at 4 p.m.

The 8th Semi-Annual Miss \$198 Beauty Pageant will be at the Lake Lounge on Sunday, Aug. 24. Festivities begin at 2 p.m. See flyers for all particulars.

A Monte Carlo Night is being held at the Fickle Fox, Saturday, Aug. 30. Proceeds will go to BABY (Beaten And Battered Youths). A previously scheduled "kick-off campaign" for ACIE Emperor and Empress, that was to have been held in conjunction with this event, was canceled. Differences of opinions became too opinionated, causing the negation.

I've only heard third- and fourth-hand tales about the newest bartender in town who failed to show up to open for the morning shift and seemed to have disappeared with select morsels from the cash drawer. Them that know first-hand ain't doing much talking!

I know nothing about a certain Empress being extremely eager to perform an "emergency investiture" even if she had to use her duffel bag for the "once, twice, thrice" routine!

I know nothing about Pam's

getting the highest score on the T&C's Mr. Do machine. Seems she was so excited, she misspelled her own name! Sam said that he'd unplug it so she could start all over.

A Liar's Dice Competition is in the works between Revol and Town & Country. Details are being ironed out, and it seems as if the contest will be limited to ten players from each bar. Sign-ups are expected to fill the reservations very rapidly. More information will go to you as it becomes available to me.

Next week, an "up close and personal" with Terry and Marge. It should provide quite a different — and interesting — point of view.

★ ★ ★

You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you can't fool around with LaRouche. Fight against Prop. 64. That will make me smile. Love,

Nez

San Mateo to Form AIDS Service Network

Ed Hilton Named County AIDS Director

by Marv. Shaw

Acceptance by IV drug users at risk for AIDS is the toughest problem facing Edison Hilton, San Mateo County's new AIDS coordinator. Hilton, a registered nurse certified by the American Nurses Association for psychiatric and mental health care, comes into the job with extensive experience in San Francisco and San Mateo County on various aspects of the AIDS crisis.

He worked with the first coordinator, Arlette Grubbe, on such projects as a videotape on the gay and bisexual lifestyle, showing it to many assemblies of county workers and conducting the follow-up workshops on it. Hilton also has worked at San Francisco General Hospital on clinical research on the mental status of people with AIDS and has been involved with the training of the Buddies support groups since the first one was organized.

Another group Hilton sees as necessary to involve, but very difficult to deal with, is teenagers who are sexually active, perhaps even prostitutes, and possibly drug users as well. That only complicates his job. Hilton pointed out that each mini-society is insular, secretive and non-trusting.

Nevertheless, Hilton has already made contacts and is preparing plans with Ed Buchanan of the Phoenix and New Day drug and alcoholism treatment programs in East Palo Alto for dissemination of all literature on the nature and prevention of AIDS. Also, Jim Perkins of the County Health Education Office is collaborating with Hilton to operate peer counseling groups for high school students. They will be able to educate each other in a mutually supportive atmosphere.

For the gay population generally, Hilton wants intimacy workshops to be developed in which erotic safe sex techniques can be learned.

In response to the quarantine being pushed by the LaRouche group, Hilton repeatedly emphasizes that effective action must deal with behavior, not groups.

When Rick Crane left the AIDS coordinator job in June, he claimed there was a lack of co-operation among participating groups. Hilton does not see such a problem, citing supportive bosses and groups eager to collaborate.

For example, he is a member of the board of directors of the new private umbrella group ELLIPSE. Though he recognizes that ELLIPSE intends to coordinate both private and public efforts, he sees this new group and the County Health Office as equals working for the same goals. Hilton believes that the county's major contributions must be education and training of all consultants for all phases of the total program. All direct service should remain in the private sector, he asserts. This operative policy is a major example of the model that San Mateo County

has created for itself and its own needs, which are markedly different from those of a large urban scene, such as San Francisco's.

Hilton is evolving extensive plans that will mean striking differences in the operation of his office. By this time next year, he believes a hospice will be operating for the care of AIDS patients. Also, by that time at least 150 more trained volunteers will be in the field. A new health education position will be staffed in his office. All industries will have been contacted for staff education. He calculates that the AIDS Speakers Bureau will be making four presentations a day. There will be more Buddies and more support people.

"All we've got to give is love," Hilton states — by which he means all aid possible for both patients and the county in general.

Volunteers are constantly needed. They and others needing information are urged to call (415) 573-2588.

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FRIDAY 15

- **Gays in World Cinema:** film, Roxie Cinema, 16th and Valencia, S.F., *Novembermoon* (West Germany, 1985), 6:15 and 10 PM; and *Desert Hearts* (USA, 1986), 8:15 PM, \$5, \$4 for Frameline members. Frameline presents a film festival as part of the Gay Games II Procession of the Arts.
- **Gay Games II Sporting Events:** Basketball, S.F. State University, 5-10 PM, free; Bowling, Park Bowl, 9 AM-5 PM, \$5; Billiards, Park Bowl, 9 AM-6 PM, \$5; Racquetball, U.C. Berkeley, 8 AM-4 PM, free; Soccer, West Sunset Park, 9 AM-5 PM, free; Swimming and Diving, Laney College, Oakland, 9 AM-6 PM, \$5; Tennis, City College, 9 AM-7 PM, free; Track and Field, S.F. State University, 8 AM-noon; \$5; and Volleyball, City College, 9 AM-11 PM, \$5.
- **Physique:** Gay Games II sporting event, Civic Auditorium, preliminaries begin 8 AM, \$5; finals begin 7 PM, \$10 general admission, \$15 reserved. Tickets available through BASS.
- **A Salute to Bodybuilders:** dance music with DJ Tony Corben, Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 9 PM-dawn. Call 495-0185 for more details.
- **Sisters in Motion:** an evening of dance featuring Debra Floyd, modern jazz dancer, and Sharon Page Ritchie, bellydancer, in a benefit for the Lyon-Martin Clinic, San Francisco Women's Building, 3543 18th St. (near Valencia), S.F., 8 PM, \$8. Wheelchair access.
- **Party for Gay Games II Swimming and Diving teams:** High Chaparral, 2140 Market St., 9 PM on. Open to the public.
- **AIDS Prayer Vigil:** Church of the Advent of Christ the King, 261 Fell St., S.F., noon-3 PM.
- **Marga Gomez and Tony Morewood:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, \$5 cover after 8 PM.
- **Women Meeting Women:** food, music, drinks, and a homey atmosphere, 8 PM-midnight. Call 864-0876 for details.
- **In Praise of Love and Sex:** stage presentation, Victoria Theater, 16th and Mission Sts., 8 PM, \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. The story of homosexuality in Japan told through shadow pictures and classical Japanese and modern dance.
- **Unfinished Business, The New AIDS Show:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10 general admission, \$1 off with donation of canned good for S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank. Positively the last four performances. Call 861-5079 for tickets and more information.
- **The Maids:** stage performance, Nova Theatre, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Don Krohn's production of Jean Genet's play directed by Carole Graham that stars Tom Redalia, Richard Pastor, and Colette Keen. Tickets available at both Headlines stores. Ten percent of all proceeds go to Coming Home Hospice.
- **New One-Acts:** stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5. From the playwrights of Theatre Rhinoceros comes *The Murder of Gonzago*, a Comedy, by Daniel Curzon, *Chase Away the Birds* by William Martin, and *The Bottom-Line Lover*, by Rob Kellet. Call 861-5079 or 552-4100 for reservations.
- **Fall Seasons:** stage presentation, Phoenix Theater, 301 8th St. (at Folsom), S.F., 8 PM. When three men discover the bonds of love. Call 431-6777 for more details.
- **Edmond:** stage presentation, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8 (call 641-0480 for reservations). A play by David Mamet (*Sexual Perversity in Chicago*, *The Verdict*) about racism, homophobia, and sexism.
- **The Cellar Supper Club and Cabaret:** cabaret, The Cellar at Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 8 PM. For cocktail or dinner reservations, call 788-8377. Singer Jackie Taylor headlines a variety of entertainers.

SATURDAY 16

- **Gay Games II Sporting Events:** Basketball, Kezar Pavilion, 10 AM-3 PM, \$5; Bowling, Park Bowl, 9 AM-5 PM, \$5; Cycling, Lake Merced 8 AM-4 PM, free; Billiards, Park Bowl, 9 AM-6 PM, \$5; Racquetball, U.C. Berkeley, 8 AM-4 PM, free; Soccer, West Sunset Park, 9 AM-5 PM, free; Softball, Moscone Field, 9 AM-4 PM, free; Tennis, City College, 9 AM-7 PM, free; Track and Field, S.F. State University, 9 AM-6 PM, \$5; and Volleyball, Kezar Pavilion, 4-10 PM, \$5.
- **Gays in World Cinema:** film, Roxie Cinema, 16th and Valencia, S.F., *Pumping Iron II* (USA, 1985), 1:45 and 7 PM; *Pumping Iron* (USA, 1977), 3:30 and 8:45 PM; and *Rainbow Serpent* (France, 1983), 5:15 and 10:30 PM, \$5, \$14 for Frameline members. Frameline presents a film festival as part of the Gay Games II Procession of the Arts.
- **Voices Raised in Song:** music, First Congregational Church, Post and Mason, S.F., 4 PM, \$3-\$9. An afternoon of performances by choruses and choral groups from throughout the Bay Area with possible guest performances by performers from throughout the US and the world as part of the Gay Games II Procession of the Arts.



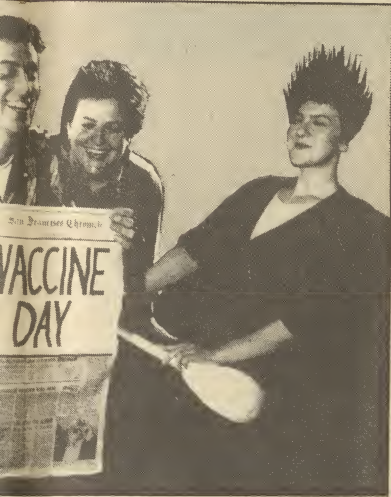
See one of the (positively) last four performances Show this week.

- **Down Home Dancin':** Western dance extravaganza, Golden Gate YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Instructions and exhibitions coinciding with the national convention of Western dancers as part of the Gay Games II Procession of the Arts.
- **Sisters in Motion:** an evening of dance, special guests: drummers Susu Pampanin and Daria Schwarzchild (See Friday for details).
- **Hot Time Summer in the City:** a celebration of women in sports, S.F. Giftcenter Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., S.F., 9 PM-3 AM, \$12 for members of the Bay Area Career Women, \$22 for non-members, \$22 for everyone at the door. Features Sistah Boom. Great music for dancing. Special rates for women athletes participating in Gay Games II. Women preferred. Call 495-5393 for details.
- **Maxine Howard Rhythm and Blues Experience:** dancing and music, the Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 9 PM, \$8.
- **Festa di Italiano:** Most Holy Redeemer School Cafeteria, 100 Diamond St., S.F., 8 PM-midnight, \$20. Sponsored by the Gay Italian Americans. Call 474-6215 for details.
- **Athletic Meat:** a J/O party in honor of the Gay Games, 260 Shotwell (at 16th St.), S.F., 9:30-11:30 PM, \$10, \$7 for Gay Games athletes. Presented by J/O Buddies. Let the Coach give you a hand.
- **Quarantine Resistance Training:** Saint Francis Lutheran Parish Hall, 152 Church St., S.F., 10 AM-6 PM. Training in resistance to possible quarantine measures will be sponsored by Mobilization Against AIDS and will be conducted by Nonviolence Preppers Collective of the Bay Area. Free to the public. Call 431-4660 or 626-1245 for details.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Point Pinole trip, 9:30 AM. Call 526-3506 or 261-3246 for details.
- **Santa Cruz Boardwalk Trip:** sponsored by Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church. Meet at 2253 Concord Blvd. at 8:30 AM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- **In Praise of Love and Sex:** stage presentation, 3 PM, 8 PM (See Friday for details).
- **Unfinished Business, The New AIDS Show:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **The Maids:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **New One-Acts:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Fall Seasons:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).
- **Edmond:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).
- **Different Spokes:** decide-and-ride, meet at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, 1 PM.
- **The Cellar Supper Club and Cabaret:** cabaret (see Friday for details).

SUNDAY 17

- **Marathon:** Gay Games II sporting event, begins 7:30 AM at Fort Point, S.F., ends Kezar Stadium at 10 AM prior to Closing Ceremonies. Closing Ceremonies tickets must be purchased to view the finish.
- **Troc's Salute to Athletes:** post closing day celebration, Trocadero Transfer, 520 Fourth St., S.F., 6 PM-dawn. Call 495-0185 for details.
- **Linda Tillery:** music, the Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8.
- **Goodbye Dance for Athletes:** Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., Call 552-7788 for details.
- **Goodbye Barbecue for Athletes:** Maud's, 937 Cole, S.F., 4-8 PM.

WEEK



performances of *Unfinished Business: The New AIDS*

care workers in the AIDS epidemic, Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 6-8 PM. Meets every Monday.

TUESDAY 19

- **Gay Cable Network:** gay television programming on cable 6 (screenings at Maud's and Alamo Square Saloon), 9-10 PM. Commentaries by Sally Gearhart and Gay Games coverage head the top features of the week. In *The Right Stuff*, Doris and Tippi display true Hollywood glamor.
- **Gay and Lesbian Sierrans:** meeting, Sierra Club headquarters, 730 Polk St., S.F. Ann Riley will show a videotape and talk about the grassroots effort to save, unearth, and restore creeks in cities.
- **Simply Healthy:** a celebration of health. Call 285-2096 for details.
- **Gwen Avery:** R&B music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- **BurLEZk:** erotic dance show for women, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.
- **Pacific Center AIDS Project:** People with AIDS/ARC Support Group and *Lovers, Friends and Family of People with AIDS/ARC*, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for details.
- **Meditation and Healing Circle:** meeting, Haight-Ashbury Community Center, Park Branch Library, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-5483 for details.
- **Gay International Folk Dancing:** for lesbians and gay men, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood Park, S.F., teaching 7:30-8 PM, request dancing 8-9:30 PM, \$2.50. Call 585-9784 or 552-8413 for details.
- **Gay-Nite:** Rollergarden, 15721 East 14th St., San Leandro, 7:30 PM-Midnight.
- **The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus:** rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana (at Durant), Berkeley, 7 PM. For details, call 465-7388 or 655-3825.

WEDNESDAY 20

- **A LaRouche Teach-In: The Hidden Threat to All Progressives:** discussion, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Dr. Mike Whitty of the S.F. A.C.L.U. and the S.F. Mobilization Against AIDS will report on CIA funding of LaRouche as well as LaRouche ties to the GOP and the Reagan White House.
- **Wild Brides:** golden oldies music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, \$5.
- **Tom Ammann:** open mike comedy, Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Pacific Center AIDS Project: People with AIDS/ARC Support Group,** Fairmont Hospital, San Leandro, 3-5 PM. Call 420-8181 for details.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** Bible Study and Prayer & Praise Worship, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord. Bible Study at 7 PM, Prayer & Praise Worship at 8:15 PM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- **Beginning Yoga Classes:** 6:30-8 PM. Located near 16th and Valencia. Free for PWA. Call 864-1141 for details.
- **Western Star Dancers:** square dance for experienced mainstream level dancers, Central YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor theater. Both males and females welcome. Every Wednesday. Call 621-5631 or 621-3990 for details.
- **Men's Wart Clinic:** removal of penile and external and internal anal venereal warts, Oakland Feminist Women's Health Center, Oakland, sliding scale. Staff physician is Dr. Fred Strauss of the Gay Men's Health Collective. Call 444-5676 for more information.
- **S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus:** "Together In Harmony" rehearsals at All-Saints Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller St. (near Masonic), 7:30-10 PM. Call 334-6542 for details.
- **Fruit Punch:** gay radio, KPFA, 94.1 FM, 10 PM.

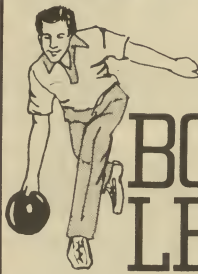
MONDAY 18

- **The S.F. GDI Club:** the showing of the 1986 run show tape, *The Cornix*, the Transfer, 198 Church St., S.F., 8 PM. A sign-up sheet and casting call for Minsky's 1986 will be made available. Call 431-7645 for details.
- **Support Group for Older Gay Men (60+):** sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, 208 Dolores St. (at Dolores St. Baptist Church), 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for details.
- **Pat Wilder and Rita Lackey:** R&B jam, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM.
- **Gay Men's Group:** giving and receiving kindred spirits, Spiritmenders Community Center, 2141 Mission St., #203 (between 17th and 18th Sts.), 7-9 PM. A whole range of subjects of interest to the gay or bisexual male, or one who is exploring his thoughts and feelings in these areas is welcome. Call 552-4910 for details.
- **Slightly Older Lesbians:** meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian/Gay Community Center of Santa Clara County, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7-9 PM. Call (408) 265-0416 for details.
- **Pacific Center AIDS Project:** support group for health

THURSDAY 21

- **Marga Gomez and Danny Williams:** comedy, the Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 10 PM. Call 444-2266 for details.
- **Black and White Men Together:** rap session on substance abuse and AIDS, 1350 Waller St., near Masonic, 7:30 PM.
- **Older Gay Men's Friendship Group:** 60+, Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM. Led by George Bir-misa. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Coming Home Hospice Bingo:** Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., S.F., 6:30 PM. \$10 minimum buy-in. Come on over and join the fun... even if you've never played bingo before. An alcohol-free space. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages sold. Smoking and non-smoking areas. Early Bird specials. Door prizes and cash prizes for each game.
- **Fall Seasons:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM, free

WINTER GAY BOWLING LEAGUES



Monday Community League—The most established Gay Bowling League in San Francisco. This league has been bowling for over 20 years. League starts on October 13, bowls at 8:45 p.m., costs \$8.50 per week and is 80% handicap. 5 bowlers to a team.

Las Vegas Holiday League—Something new—Everyone in the league will go on a 3 day, 2 night Las Vegas Holiday at Season's End. Las Vegas trip is in June. League starts October 6th, bowls Mondays at 8:45 p.m., costs \$12.00 per week (includes trip to Las Vegas), 90% handicap, 5 bowlers to a team.

Tuesday Community League—Perhaps the most fun league in the city. This league is more for the bowler who wants to meet new friends and have a fun night out at a low cost. League starts on October 14, bowls at 8:45 p.m., costs \$8.50 per week and is 90% handicap.

Wednesday Community League—This is the largest Gay League at Japantown Bowl, presently 20 teams. This league fills up fast, so don't delay. League starts on October 15, bowls at 8:45 p.m., costs \$8.00 per week, and is 80% handicap. 5 bowlers to a team.

Thursday Community League—Great league for bartenders and other night workers. This is the only weekday afternoon Gay league in the City. League starts on October 9, bowls at 1:00 p.m., costs \$6.00 per week and is 90% handicap. 3 bowlers to a team.

Sunday Reno League—Everyone in this league will go to Reno for a weekend at the end of the season. The trips are always loads of fun. League starts on October 12, bowls at 6:00 p.m., costs \$10.00 per week and is 90% handicap. 4 bowlers to a team.



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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

BOOKS

Novelizing the '80s

How We Deal with the Mind-set That Made Ronnie Powerful

by Dianne Gregory

Ah, the '80s. The decade Ronnie Reagan has wrought in America, the decade of fighting again battles thought won, of terrorism which takes many forms, of Individual Retirement Accounts. The Pepsi Generation grows up to find the lie behind the many truisms repeated again and again by our elders like so many mantras. "Any little boy can grow up to be president" turns into soup kitchen lines. "Nuclear power is your friend" turns into Three Mile Island and Chernobyl.

So how do we novelize the '80s? Two recent issues out of Naiad Press illustrate the way. The novels deal with women's lives and how we deal with the mind-set that made Ronnie powerful.

An Emergence of Green by Katherine W. Forrest (8.95) is the fourth book of a talented author. It concerns a corrosive love triangle between Val Hunter, poor single mother, Caroline Blake, limp dishrag, and her husband Paul Blake, cruel man of



the world. It's set in Los Angeles, a city that personifies the '80s, which is a perfect backdrop for this little tableau.

Forrest weaves the story with her usual skill, making us hate Paul Blake as if we had been the victim of his sexual assault, and getting us to root for the budding romance between Val and Carolyn as if our own happiness depended upon it. The love scenes—at which Forrest is a master—steam right off the page. And the lengthy buildup to the inevitable climax is compelling.

But is it Forrest's "most powerful novel" as the cover says? Her first novel, *Curious Wine*, is one of the most dog-eared on my bookshelf owing to its excessive re-reading. Its passages of discovery never fail to make me tremble. The novel published just before this one, *Amateur City*, made me sit on the edge of my seat even though I read it lying down. This one certainly deserves to keep company with those, although I don't think it surpasses them.

★ ★ ★

Horizon of the Heart by Shelley Smith (a pseudonym for two female authors) (\$7.95) concerns a love triangle between three women: Danni Marlowe, supposedly straight high-powered advertising executive, Anne Yarwood, attorney, and Jeny Winthrop, poor single mother who loves them both. I won't tell you who ends up with whom, but suffice it to say that somebody always gets left out of a love triangle, I don't care what you've heard.

The authors tell the tale with aplomb, making the most out of the Pepsi Generation good life. Everyone is beautiful, and those without money or power cater to those who do. Danni Marlowe in particular is painted with the broad strokes of selfish gratification, of mindless obedience to the god Normal. If it had been set in Los Angeles it would have been too much; it would have gone over the edge into caricature.

But it doesn't. It sets itself right down in the middle of reality, or what passes for reality in the '80s.

Singular Challenge

Recreating Historial Detail Beyond Many Writers

by Dianne Gregory

Novels set in a period other than that which is contemporary with the author's life span always pose a singular challenge. To recreate the mind-set of a time out of the pages of

novels including this one, and with *Pembroke Park* Martin truly accomplishes something that has slipped through the typewriters of many a writer: she writes as though she were there.

a lesbian science fiction novel and plans to write a series of contemporary novels set in Santa Fe (where she now resides), a series of historical novels about American women, and a sequel to *Pembroke Park* along the lines of "Molly Goes to America." Although she seems to have set herself a series of gargantuan tasks, I have no doubt she will succeed.

★ ★ ★

Meanwhile, about 50 years later and thousands of miles away in the American Southwest, Blanche and Teresa are trying to run away from the oppressive heat and the oppressive men of Starcross, Texas circa 1869 in Penny Hayes' *The Long Trail* (Naiad, \$8.95). Blanche is a fat school teacher and Teresa is the proverbial dance hall girl. They find love among the shrubs along the local river bank, and they set off through the desert to the haven of Rochester, New York.

The story primarily consists of their journey, both through the physical travails of crossing the country in a covered wagon and through themselves to find the strength to do battle with the elements and those who will do anything to stop them. The book is a page-turner from beginning to end, and the author evokes the heat, the dust, and the adversity of the trail with such vision that it takes my breath away.



Hayes makes her publishing debut with this well-wrought novel. Although she lives in Ithaca, New York and has an interest in early American history, those are the only qualifications

she seems to have for writing this piece of historical fiction. But she has done superbly, and I look forward to hearing from Hayes again.

'Two novels recently published by Naiad Press happily prove that people other than jaded historians can and do write about times past with skill and all-important attention to historical minutiae.'

history for the reader, much less to keep historical details straight, can be a task beyond the scope of many writers. Two novels recently published by Naiad Press happily prove that people other than jaded historians out to make a quick buck can and do write about times past with skill and all-important attention to historical minutiae.

Pembroke Park by Michelle Martin (\$7.95) is described on the fly-leaf as "the first lesbian Regency novel" and so it is. Jane Austen must be twirling in her grave, it so exactly reproduces the rigid propriety of that time yet ends with a sapphic twist. The author is a "confirmed Anglophile" and spent a year in Lancaster, England as an undergraduate. She is the author of five

John Fowles did it with *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, and Sarah Aldridge failed to do it with *Madame Aurora* (Naiad, 1983).

Pembroke Park pits Lady Joanna Sinclair and Lady Diana March against the evil Hugo Sinclair, who vows to subdue them both. He fails utterly. During the struggle Lady Joanna gains a measure of independence from her villainous brother, and her daughter Molly is transformed from a budding professional invalid into an active child. Lady Diana's world is peopled with a circus of distinctly peculiar characters who lend color to the rigid landscape. It is all simply divine.

Martin writes in her biographical sketch that she is working on

The Monstrous Soul of Servantdom

by Stephen Drewes

There is nothing easy about Jean Genet's one-act play, *The Maids*. It is a complicated, often devious script about the relationship between fantasy and reality, sexual and emotional dependence in confinement, the influence of the Roman Catholic church, the union of good and evil, in the playwright's famous phrase, "The eternal couple of the Criminal and the Saint," and the political implications of the existence of a servant class.

The plot, circular in structure, concerns a ceremony acted out by two maids, Clare and Solange, in which they exchange identities with each other and with Madame, their employer, in order to ritually destroy her. The play opens in the middle of this off-repeated ritual, with Clare enacting the imperious Madame and Solange the submissive Clare.

Theatrical Sin

by Stephen Drewes

It's hard to say exactly what's wrong with David Mamet's 1982 play *Edmond*, currently in production at the Noe Valley Ministry under the direction of Robert Wilden, but it's crystal clear something very definitely is.

This play, a kind of contemporary *Everyman*, with hints of *The Blue Angel* and Wedekind's *Pandora's Box*, chronicles the downfall of a middle class white male named Edmond Burke (students of English philosophy please note symbolism) who is told by a fortune teller that he is really special, whereas others only think they are. He abruptly leaves his wife, for which I don't altogether blame him (she wears flats) and sets out into the world.

He is advised by a barfly that what he really needs is to get laid, so he goes about the business, and I do mean business, of doing so. He gets ripped off by a prostitute or two, cheated and attacked by a couple of street toughs, and eventually picks up a waitress, sleeps with her, and eventually murders her in a fit of pique, after the mandatory Half

Events march, as the French would put it, and just as the ceremony is reaching a fever pitch, the maids are interrupted by an alarm clock announcing the imminent arrival of Madame. Prior to the opening of the play Clare, at the insistence of Solange, had written a letter denouncing Madame's boyfriend to the police. A phone call from the station announces the release of Monsieur from jail, and the maids are in Gallic hot water. Madame arrives, and the already dense plot thickens apace.

If all this sounds intricate, you're getting the picture, and things are not helped a bit by a perfectly awful translation by Bernard Frechtman, who has transformed the lyric French into bombastic, heavy, and nearly unplayable English. It is a great pity that contemporary and, for that

Clothed Love Scene. Quite correctly, Edmond is clapped in jail, where he is sexually abused by his enormous black cellmate. Being sodomized seems to bring Edmond some measure of peace, and the play ends with Edmond planting a tender kiss on his, uh, aggressive roomie.

It's hard to believe *Edmond* was written by the author of *A Life in the Theater*, *American Buffalo*, and *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*. *Edmond* is devoid of Mamet's beautiful, rhythmic language, which usually disguises the moments in his plays which are, shall we say, less dense. Who could forget the opening lines of *American Buffalo*: "Fuckin' Ruthie, fuckin' Ruthie, fuckin' Ruthie!" Meaningless, right? But when properly intoned, sheer music. Only the scenes involving blacks come even close to this sort of music. Moreover, the play is episodic to the point of distraction. Most of the scenes are so short they make the slightly longer ones endless.

The play seems to be about the destructive influence of a decadent society on an Innocent. Unfortunately, Edmond carries innocence to the other side of doltish. He's a nebbish without a trace of independence or originality. When questioned by his wife, Edmond quite seriously suggests he may have killed

(Continued on next page)

matter, classic French theater is translated by learned scholars rather than dramatists. The only writer currently doing good translations is the brilliant Richard Wilber, and for most of us, current French theater remains a closed book.

For the Gay Games' production of *The Maids*, which opened Aug. 7, director Carole Graham clearly understands what this piece is all about, and has done a commendable job of bringing it to the stage. Her major problem, however, has been in casting. Graham has cast two men as Clare and Solange, to which I have no objection at all. I would like to point out for the record, though, that Genet suggested the roles might be played by boys, not men. As many of you know far better than I, there is a very real difference, and I find the obvious homosexuality of the maids as played by men far less interesting dramatically than the suggestion of such a relationship between the characters as played by women.

Graham has made the unfortunate mistake of casting the stronger actor as the weaker character. As the softer sister Clare, Richard Pastor is quite wonderful. He has a splendid voice and body, and a solid and dependable emotional range. As the butcher of the sisters, at any rate until the end, Tom Redalia looks like a Hitler-Jungen and is about as relaxed. His heavy emotionality at the end is forced and, consequently, endless. Sadly, this throws off the focus and the production becomes unbalanced. As Madame, *bassa profunda* Collette Keen in no way resembles



Richard Pastor and Tom Redalia in *The Maids*
(Photo: Savage Photography)

the woman as described by her servants, which serves to underline the depth of fantasy to which the hapless toilers have descended.

Sometimes Graham goes a bit too far. Solange, for instance, is discovered at the curtain kneeling down front flagellating himself with a rosary. Similarly, designer Carole Graham has taken a swell set concept and created a bit too much of a good thing. It's a wonderful set to watch, cluttered with every conceivable example of kitsch bad taste, but it's hard to believe even a woman as vulgar as Madame could have

learned so little about interior decoration on her sleazy way up the economic ladder. The lighting is by Karen Kiss and the costumes by Barbara Hepburn.

On the whole, this production of *The Maids* is a worthy effort, and I am happy to report that my eyelids never drooped, which they have a distressing tendency to do in this particular theatrical genre. If you've never dined on Genet, this is a suitable *hors d'oeuvre*.

The Maids
Nova Theatre
Through Aug. 17; 641-0480

THE RAWHIDE II

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Art and Athletics, or Off the Beaten Path

by Kim Anno

Art and athletics. These are two most unlikely combinations, as some people have pointed out. But then again there is all kinds of theater, music, and comedy associated with Gay Games II. Why not art of the visual media? What about Neiman's baseball players? Well, here it is, folks. And don't expect *Sports Illustrated*.

The Gay Games presents an exhibition of two artists' work: Kemit Amenophis and Asungi, at the Western Addition Cultural Center, 762 Fulton St. It is on view through Aug. 30. The theme of the show is "A Dual Reflection on African Mysticism."

This show is something else: African Mysticism in gay culture. I'd like to offer kudos to the Gay Games II committee for choosing this work. It was a bold move, and I left the gallery with a fulfilled feeling. The one point where this art and athletics comes together is the feeling of spirituality. Most every athlete I have known has told me about this euphoria, this quest for a higher state of being. Amenophis's and Asungi's drawings and paintings are very clearly on a spiritual or mystical level.

Kemit Amenophis is a master draftsman or illustrator. His drawings and paintings are under his tightly controlled mark. He is also a surrealist. His images are human figures juxtaposed to animals or animal body parts. He also explores symbolism of black culture, African culture.

One smaller piece that worked succinctly for me was "Three Graces." For anyone who doesn't already know, Amenophis is commenting on "The Three Graces" which is a classical painting of three robust, semi-nude pinkish women. Many artists over the generations have done different versions of this painting. Amenophis's ink painting is three Amazon-looking African women. They are in direct contrast to the original sexualness and frolicky nature of the original three graces. These women are muscular, and poised in a defiant stance. They are warriors. I am bowled over by the power of his irony. He makes a very strong statement about women, race, and sexuality.

I also liked two large works, "The Breath of Life" and "Son of the Sun." These are very detailed, very rich drawings. The forms undulate in and out of the composition.

"Breath of Life" is a large Sphinx head that is next to a cobra ring that emanates a startling light. The cobra ring re-occurs in other works too. Amenophis relies on symbol and myth, and the story always seems to have to do with empowerment. Nobody gets left devastated or pillaged.

"Son of the Sun" is also a strong piece which appeared in *Beef* magazine recently. The color in this drawing is overlaid with richness. Except for the title, I wouldn't have known the sex of the subject. Amenophis uses androgyny repeatedly in his work, which seems to be related to heroism. He has other pictures of Grace Jones, part of a series on her. Androgyny is something that Jones gets a lot of mileage from, but these are not as successful for me because they don't offer any other insight into Grace Jones except for the symbol of her, and the media has already driven this into the ground.

What does work the best is Amenophis's portrait of Sylvester.



'Sylvester as Merman' by Kemit Amenophis

"Sylvester as Merman" is one hell of a painting. Everything about it is happening: the color, the composition, and the seductive look on Sylvester's face. Amenophis uses watercolor, glitter, sequins, starfish, coral, etc. in this piece. Sylvester has golden ripples of hair that stick straight into the air. He looks like a woman except for the fact that he has no breasts. The likeness to the singing star is uncanny, which makes the picture somewhat unnerving. Is it real? Or is it Memorex? One other thing, do not miss Amenophis's "Black Jesus," a commissioned work. It is a perfect rendering of Jesus as a black man. Very refreshing.

Asungi has her own set of pastel drawings. They remind me of Tarot cards, or the Secret Dakini Oracle. A sense of heroism is portrayed in these too. She is looser than Amenophis, and her color is darker, with the use of a heavy black line. Each drawing tells a story that is shamanic. Magic and power go hand in hand with her subjects. "Calafia, Amazon Queen" rides a unicorn and holds a lightning bolt overhead. The figure is boldly drawn and set against a roughly drawn backdrop.

My favorite is "Dunham's Life Song." This is one velvety rich drawing. Every inch of the paper is covered with pastel pigment. The black female figure holds a snake and a unicorn in her palms. She is also frosted in a pale night light that emanates from a sky heavy with stars. Asungi's African women are both human and goddess-like. Although Asungi's figures are more earth-bound, both Asungi and Amenophis walk a line between reality and a much more metaphysical world.

Their work is indeed a "Dual Reflection on African Mysticism," and it is also an expression of gay identity, myth, and culture.

Not associated with the games, but stunning nevertheless is a photography show by Gypsy Ray at Berkeley's UC Extension Center in San Francisco at Laguna and Haight. Ray's subject is portraits of people affected by AIDS in one way or another. This may not be the first photo show on AIDS, but it is certainly the most successful in my opinion. Ray distills the private moments of those most affected by AIDS. He includes parents, nurses, volunteers, lovers, as well as those diagnosed with the disease. Underneath each portrait the subject makes a statement in his or her own handwriting.

Ray does not sacrifice his formal concerns, either. One of the strongest photos in the show is simply a doorhandle with chains, locks, and ribbon, entitled "ARC/AIDS Vigil 50 UN Plaza."

Ray also portrays strong evidence of people fighting back. In "Gary," the subject writes, "Our philosophy is to get up off your death bed, stop laying down to die. Make active people of yourselves and add time to your lives." Another is "Ron Carey" who says, "I have been living with AIDS four years, four months. There is still a life to live after AIDS diagnosis." His face confronts the viewer with an honest and questioning look.

These photographs are so effective, so moving, they get under your skin. Do not overlook this show, even if it is a bit off the beaten path.

Edmond

(Continued from previous page)

because he had too much coffee. I expected Robert Young to step reassuringly out of the shadows. Do you suppose the director might have missed the fact the *Edmond* is actually a satire?

All of which is too bad, because Avatar Productions has assembled a competent, interesting bunch of actors for this production. Jeff Carter does his level best with the colorless central role, and my sympathies are with him. Other standouts were Pat Franklyn, a splendid British actress whom I hope someone will have the sense to showcase very soon, Leanna Ervin Templeton as Glenna the murderess, J.J. John-

son as Edmond's demanding cellmate, and, in various multiple roles, Russ Davidson, Jon Mondon, David Darnell, and Louis Landman. I long to see them again in a worthier effort. No one is credited with set or costume design, which is as it should be. The lighting is by Jeff Evans and the sound by Steve Shaw.

In the program notes, director Wilden describes this script as "stunning, compassionate, brutal, brilliant, and eloquently funny." Apparently Wilden and I weren't in the same ballpark. *Edmond* is not only turgid, it commits the only real theatrical sin. It's a little boring.

Edmond

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John Karr

Vissi D'Arte Vissi D'Money



Peter Newton (l.) and Gary Aylesworth in *The Bohemian Grove*
(Photo: A. Nomura)

Once upon a time, so long ago that my hairline was still acquainted with my forehead and gay men were less concerned with immunity to sickness than with imperviousness to sass, there burst upon the gay press Ronnettite. Somewhere and sometimes in a state of normalcy (but not too frequently), this person was known as Ron Bluestein. But a transformation ensued when he picked up a pen, and the earthbound Ron ascended to the Planet Mary, where Ronnettite took over. He was sassy, he was bitchy, he was gay to such excess that sometimes Ronnettite became Ronnettitezin-ella.

But Ronnettite was not merely the voice of gay excess. There was a political sense within him, and he understood the chasm between the powered and the powerless, the served and the servant, the rich and the poor, the sexually free and the politician; in short, he was the Karl Marx and Wilhelm Reich of South Philly.

But he tired of serving beefsteak to the rich while he dined on cheesesteak, so he came to San Francisco, where the livin' is easier, the hustlers cheaper, and the economic dividing lines not so clearly drawn.

Or so he thought until he became a waiter at the Bohemian Grove, that world-famous bastion where conservative powers congregate yearly to whoop it up and pledge the martinied fealties which will oppress the poor, people of color, and the queer — in short, the Ronnettites of all persuasions — for another year.

Ronnettite's inside view of this confrontation resulted in an historic and hilarious indictment titled "A Waitress in Bohemia," which was published in five severely shortened installments in the *B.A.R.* in 1983. Its view of the confrontation between wealthy Bohemians and the gay and Third World waiters singed a few ears at the time, not the least of

which were those of playwright and performer Gary Aylesworth. His interest in the politics of male gender and homophobia had led him to research the Grove at the same time Ronnettite was writing his piece. Aylesworth found in the Grove's own extensive documentation — their annals, histories, and the scripts of the original plays they produce each year (with men in women's roles) — a picture of how straight male, ruling-class culture manifests itself.

"I knew I was just the guy," Aylesworth told me, "to take this old trash and to do something with it."

His researches, however, had not led him to a viable theatrical form until he found Ronnettite's piece. "In the hired help I found my perspective," Aylesworth said, "the point at which all the lines of politics — class, race, and gender — meet. Ronnettite helped me ground it all in an upstairs/downstairs manner."

So Ronnettite finds himself the leading character in the show, which is titled *The Bohemian Grove (A Documentary Fantasy)*. The script makes heavy use of Ronnettite's original dialogue, but is mostly Aylesworth's creation. It also includes portions of the Bohemians' own plays.

"This way," Aylesworth explained, "I could comment on their work and do it at the same time."

In the play Ronnettite has some heavy run-ins with George Schultz, while Aylesworth examines how the big boys camp. "We are how we camp," he said of the behavior seen at the Grove, where straight men relate in the most untraditional manner. "I deal with the politics of gender, how that impacts on the world, and how we deal with the phobias surrounding that."

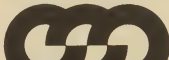
Aylesworth hopes interest in the piece will help his work re-

(Continued on page 34)

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Howard the Duck and Cover

Two new films contrast the innocence of the 1950s with the more enlightened naivete of today, and the '50s win hands down.

BLOOM WITH A (POINT OF) VIEW

Desert Bloom is about an adolescent (Annabeth Gish) coming of age in the early '50s in Las Vegas, when children were taught to "duck and cover" and the town was looking forward to the first nuclear test in their back yard. The government prepared for emergencies while assuring everyone it was perfectly safe.

Gish doesn't get along with stepfather Jon Voight, a disturbed, alcoholic veteran who takes everything — including his own impotence — out on wife JoBeth Williams and her eldest daughter.

Glamorous aunt Ellen Barkin, in town for a divorce, brings out the Stanley Kowalski in Voight, while neighbor Allen Garfield is the only one with desert smarts who has learned to start worrying and hate the bomb.

Viewed from memory and leavened with ironic humor, the drama of *Desert Bloom* doesn't become too intense except in the scene where Voight gets physical. It's a good film and will make an interesting double bill with *Desert Hearts*. Set at opposite ends of the '50s, one Nevada divorce story shows the beauty of lesbian love while the other shows how ugly a traditional marriage can be. (Four-Star)

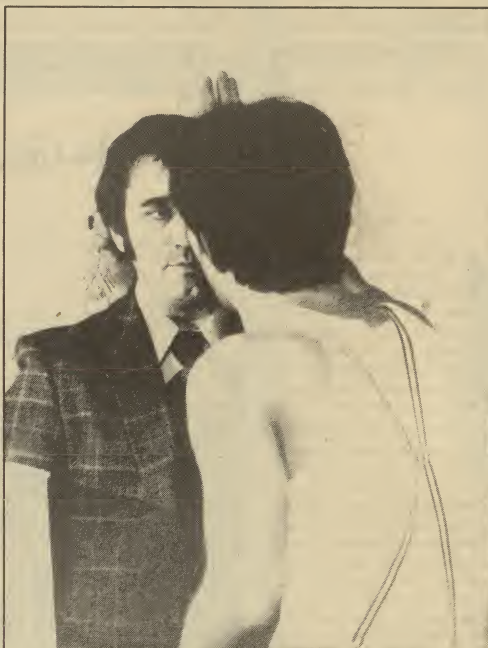
LOVELY MOVIE FOR DUCKS

Ducks Unduly Concerned with Seeking Unanimous Praise (DUC SUP) is up in wings and crying fowl about *Howard the Duck*. They haven't had such a hot issue since the extension of the hunting season triggered (sic) the famous Golden Pond rebellion that began their movement. Maybe they should be more concerned about other things — a Supreme Court that outlaws cooing may go after billing next, and their principal vocabulary has been co-opted to describe unscrupulous human physicians — but they're concentrating on their screen image, which hasn't had such high visibility since Donald's heyday gave rise to the term "Uncle Don" for interspecies collaborators and led to generations of city kids thinking ducks only exist if they're drawn.

The main duck objections to *Howard* are tokenism — why show a bourgeois superduck (You'll believe a duck can fly a plane.) instead of an average quacker with typical duck-like qualities? — and the rumor that Howard was played by eight little people in duck heads when any number of fine duck actors could have used the role to launch their careers.

Humans have an easier time criticizing *Howard the Duck* because it's a lousy movie, not much better than *Duckaroo Banzai*, that previous self-styled mass-appeal cult film which didn't have the George Lucas hype machine going for it.

Lea Thompson is no better as the rock and roller who befriends Howard when he's accidentally beamed to Earth than Diane Lane would have been. Only Jeffrey Jones, Tim Robbins, and



Peter Andorai and Karoly Eperjes are in *Tight Quarters*.

Virginia Capers do well by their species. The movie is so silly it's just for kids who are too young for the heterosexual bathhouse scene, the implied bestiality interruptus and several duckle-tendres, though they may profit from the safe-sex lesson of Howard carrying a condom in his wallet. When Howard wins a barroom brawl by threatening to infect everyone with "space rabies," it plays as a spoof of AIDS panic.

Howard the Duck is a better movie for ducks than people. Send your favorite duck, but duck when *Howard* comes your way. (Regency I, Century Plaza 8, Grand Lake)

GAMES MOVIES PLAY

As the new releases get worse and worse, there's all the more need for retrospectives like "Gays in World Cinema," Frameline's mini-festival that's part of the Procession of the Arts in Gay Games II. Tonight's double bill features maybe two of the best gay films ever made, *Parting Glances* and *Taxi zum Klo*. Tomorrow is lesbian night, with the popular *Desert Hearts* and the superior *Novembermoon*. Saturday's bodybuilding trio isn't specifically gay but a feast for voyeurs — *Pumping Iron I* (men) and *II* (women) plus the bizarre French mystery musical *Rainbow Serpent*. (Roxie)

DALTON DOES DOUBLE-O DUTY

The gay angle — at least the printable gay angle — about last week's announcement that Timothy Dalton will be the new James Bond is that the 38-year-old Welshman played Philip, the gay king of France, in *The Lion in Winter*, and also appeared in Mae West's final film, *Sextette*. With Pierce Brosnan ruled out by the surprise renewal of his *Remington Steele* series, Dalton starts shooting the next 007 adventure, *The Living Daylights*, next month in London. It should be an improvement over Roger Moore's recent efforts. Too bad they can't get Joan Collins to play

the villain, but she has a TV series too.

UNCIVIL WAR

Argentina, 1974. Evita died 22 years ago. Juan Peron is back in power after 16 years' exile in Spain, but he's dying and his latest wife/vice president, Isabel, isn't strong enough to hold the country together.

But they're off in Buenos Aires, and Hector Olivera's anti-war satire *Funny Dirty Little War* takes place in the little town of Colonia Vela. Word has come down to the right-wing Peronists from their nervous leadership to eliminate their Marxist opposition before Peron's death can lead to a showdown.

The trouble is, no one is really sure what Peron stands for, and the town's left-wingers also consider themselves Peronists. Led by town administrator Federico Luppi, this ragtag band of drunks and students unites to protect the town's sole nominal Marxist, an innocent, ineffectual clerk.

With both sides chanting "Viva Peron!" and "Peron or death," it's as absurd as any war you've ever seen; yet as the laughs continue, the body count escalates. This *Funny Dirty Little War* is horrible and hilarious at the same time.

It's hard to believe the same director has made such exploitation films as *Barbarian Queen* and *Cocaine Wars* for Roger Corman. He obviously had his heart in this one, and it may break your heart even as you split your sides laughing. (York)

MISMENAGEMENT

Gyorgy Szomjas' Hungarian *menage a trois* comedy *Tight Quarters* alienated me right away with a lot of pointless cutting back and forth between black and white, color and various tints, plus momentary instant replays, interviews with "witnesses" — in all, the most thoroughly intrusive direction in years.

Behind all the bullshit is a good film that doesn't need it.

(Continued on page 34)

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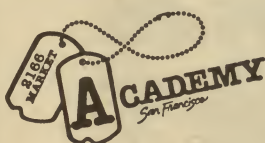
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Mr. Marcus

Triumph in '86 Indeed!

Congratulations are in order for everyone who had anything to do with the spectacular production of Gay Games II. If you missed the Opening Day Ceremonies you missed one of the most inspiring scenes you could ever have imagined as a gay person.

They came from near and far both as spectators and participants. The gay enclaves of San Francisco echoed with Boston and New York accents, Southern drawls, twangy Texas expressions, Australian poofterese, Spanish-accented mirth, and mid-western softness. The streets, bars, and restaurants were jammed all over town with old and new friends from everywhere around the world — and they are all gay and lesbian taking part in a spirit and a triumph that is rarely seen in these troubled days.

As gays from everywhere live under the spectre of AIDS and all the grief and sadness it generates, this week has been a revitalization of the strength that has sustained us all as we face crisis after crisis. Californians are being energized anew to fight the LaRouche Initiative as men and women from other communities gather strength here to fight their own back-home battles.

And they all didn't come here just to party and play. The patients at SF General's Ward 5-A were not forgotten. The Australian contingent visited the ward bearing stuffed Koala bears for everyone. A group of Chicagoans scraped up a sizable donation to dump in the collection cans for the LaRouche and Stop AIDS street workers.

Along with all the athletic hoopla, the cultural aspects of gay and lesbian life flourished with all manner of plays, shows, and exhibits. By mid-week the coveted gold, silver, and bronze medals appeared all over town. The competition continues in several categories and various athletic groups and contingent cities and states are being feted all over town as everyone gets into the act.

Triumph in '86 — it's exactly that. Surely you will not want to miss the Closing Day Ceremonies featuring Jennifer Holliday and the parade of champions. While it's nice to win one of the medals, the triumph of the medal-winners is the triumph of everyone for just feeling the pride of being connected with Gay Games II — a triumph in itself. I hope you can all be there this Sunday.

★ ★ ★

The list of activities coming your way doesn't let up either — all kinds of fun things are headed your way, not to mention other things that happened last week. The Grand Duke/Duchess coronation took place Saturday night as Tony & Deena stepped aside for their successors. And the election was quite an upset as Lola Lust and



Outside Olive Oil's after the Opening Ceremonies
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Mike the Dyke took the titles unto their own. Being elected to royalty calls for dignity, and it is hoped Duchess Lola and Duke Mike will reign wisely and productively. It is hoped, too, that they will drop the second half of their campaign appellation. As for Tony and Deena, thanks for all your efforts during the last year.

Last week, too, the Essence of Indian Art opened at the Asian Art Museum. You can bet a lot of gay input predominates there. Spectacular art and sculpture are contained in the nine *rasas*, traditional moods or sentiments that abound in Indian art, and you may even be a little shocked to see the six-headed penis on a charioteer in the erotic sentiment. Don't miss it, continuing through Nov. 9.

Besides the Closing Day Ceremonies this Sunday (tickets still available), the Constantines M/C take off on their weekend run, the theme this year: Magic Kingdom. Next weekend run: The Cycle Runners M/C weekend of Aug. 29-Sept. 1 with a \$90 tariff and a 25 Aug. deadline. You can call 647-2364 for details and applications.

The SF Bondage Club hosts its monthly party Saturday, too, at Templar Hall with the doors opening at 2100 hours and closing at 2200 for only \$3 and a six-pack. The 15 Association's Fetish Night is Saturday with a \$10 tariff, and you can call 282-1456 for more info.

The GDI's are showing the video of their run earlier this season at The Transfer Mon. night, 18 Aug., beginning at 2000 hours (free!) and you can sign up for your number in Minsky's that night, too. The royal ones travel to the San Fernando Valley for the coronation, and Dowager Empress Char celebrates his birthday Monday, 18 Aug. Call Lily Street at 647-7645 if you want to go on the GDI's one-day run Sunday, Aug. 24.

On Thursday, Aug. 21, the Endup gets back on track with John Kass producing the Jock Strap Revue with Doris Fish MC'ing and contestants winning \$100, \$75, and \$25 for a \$3 tariff. The Fun Buns (jock straps) contests begin on Thurs., Sept. 4, with the same prizes and a surprise MC. Looks like the Endup is making a bid for action, and these two once-a-month competitions are looking good with John Kass producing them for Al Hanken.

The Leather Daddy's Boy Contest is at the SF-Eagle Sun., 31 Aug., with duets at \$10 and Artie Haber, President of Interchain, is one of the judges, and Steve Reisswig, Mr. Drummer '85, and his lover Ray Woods will MC. This Sunday, the Eagle's Beer Bust is for Supervisorial candidate Pat Norman with food at \$8.50 for all the beer you can drink and some fun surprises. You're all going to vote for Pat anyway, aren't you? CUAV is hav-

(Continued on next page)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

ing a beer bust there, too, on Friday, 22 Aug., and have you reserved your space for Murder Unlimited's hot weekend planned at the Wildwood Resort the weekend of Sept. 26-28? The cost is \$215 (includes everything) so call 474-8005 for the info.

Tomorrow night, Troc salutes the Gay Games Bodybuilders after the competition, which takes place all day tomorrow (Friday) at SF Civic. Jerry Vallaire (Up Your Alley) opens his florist shop, Styles & Stamens, at 2500 Polk (@ Filbert) and you're all invited to sniff the posies, chomp the cheese, and wail with the wine Sat. and Sun., Aug. 16 and 17, from 1000 to 1800. And if you miss any of the Gay Games II activities, they're showing the rushes by MEN (Male Entertainment Network) exclusively at the Phoenix and Badlands all day every day.

Finally (and it was inevitable!) HIS Video, the hottest new porno video line, announced yesterday (Wed.) the release in December of its extravagant new porn film, *Dynastud*, a gay version of you know what popular TV soap (produced by the same people who brought you *Song of the Loon*). They say it's a lavish production with mansions, Rolls-Royces, furs, jewels, etc., etc. Stay tuned!

★ ★ ★

My sad duty to report another loss in our community. Rick Brand, a recent arrival in the leather community from Sacramento and lover of Red Bentzinger, passed away last Friday morning. In what seemed to him a losing battle against the vicissitudes of modern day life and sensing even more sadness and heartbreak in the crises he faced, Rick ended his own life. We all share great sorrow for Red's loss and hope that with these frequent occurrences amongst our brothers you will expend just a little more time with your friends. Who can know what thoughts they may have that would lead them to the brink? Especially now, take a little extra time for your brothers and sisters and try to understand what troubles they may be experiencing. You'll feel better for it and so will they.

WHAT'S GOOD FOR THE DISH IS GOOD FOR THE SLANDER?

Scoops: La Kish, a former hysterical member of this com-

munity, has announced his candidacy for Grand Duchess of Sacramento. Let's hope an unknown named Doris doesn't do a repeat like some 10 years ago here!

In Los Angeles, the hierarchy of royalty there is all upset that Suzy Parker, *Compass Magazine's* Dish Queen, is running for Empress, too. I wouldn't say that Suzy has it "made" completely, but if you can count on all the bike clubs and most of the bars for votes, it looks pretty good to me!

The management and staff of the Detour "let go" one of their titled leather men last Monday, but I don't think it had anything to do with his activities when he visited SFO last June, do you?

Are you wondering, too, why all the Australian athletes and spectators for Gay Games II have been hanging around the Special on Castro? Even Tina of Darlinghurst (Sydney) has been a frequent visitor, but Grant Kilby is maintaining the cool, if not the Tina.

Richard Rollins and his giant Craig Amaral are just about now sipping tropical drinks in Hawaii, and while they're away their town pump Frank Harper is wooing and scr—ing with Ray Allen, who just happens to be the owner of the Chute and the 1099 in Reno; knowing Frank's penchant for big houses and landed gentry, do you think this marriage will succeed?

And I think it's perfectly all right to declare your love for another woman (or man) but if you're going to do it, do it right. That's why everyone was staring at this lesbian woman tugging her lover all over Castro two Saturdays ago shouting: "I love this woman! Hear me? I love this woman!" — nice going, Julie and Mindy!

Another new star in L.A.? His name is Bob Lucas, winner of the Vern Stewart Look-A-Like Contest, and Ms. Herbella is absolutely green with N.V.

Hey, Savages closed last Sunday, and the new owners are busy as beavers remodeling it, to what end, we will all soon find out.

Stop AIDS Project is going great guns with their private, home educational parties, so if you want to sponsor one, call them and set up a session.

Enjoy all the jocks and the tourists while you can. Until next week then, keep your legs crossed and remember: When a man is not amused, he feels an involuntary contempt for those who are. See you 'round the campus. ●

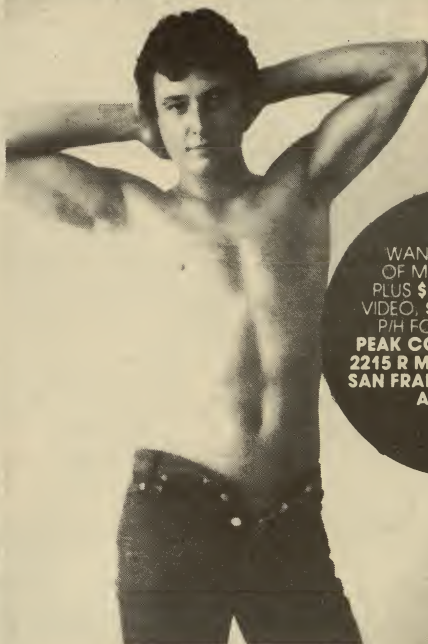


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Brian Casey (r.), Mr. November on the Bare Chest calendar, with runner-up John (Photo: R. Pruzan)

JO Buddies

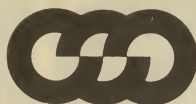
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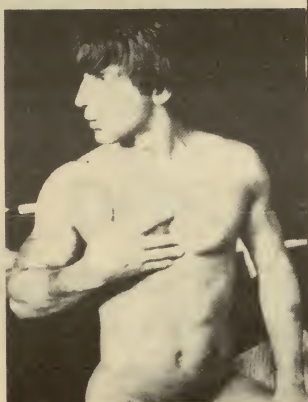


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Athletes and More Athletes

Welcome to San Francisco, a highly rated city amongst cities, the one we call home, and are proud to be able to share with the many athletes and visitors who are here for this very special week!

The Opening Ceremonies last Saturday made me regret that I foolishly missed the opening day of Gay Games I, and while watching the pageant of pride unfold, you knew you had to see it to believe it!

The entertainment lineup for opening day, as well as closing day, is top-notch, but the athletes entering Kezar Stadium was the show-stealer of the day. The affection that was shared between the athletes and audience was truly a thrill, one I was glad to have shared with so many others.

To all the athletes, visitors, and friends of Gay Games, you are the best! After all, to show spirit you have to know something about it, and all of you have graduated with flying colors!

The events continue through the weekend, with the gates at Kezar opening at 10 a.m. Sunday, and the Closing Ceremonies start at 12:30 p.m. Check this paper for the schedule of competitions, or check your local info. centers. The athletes, organizers, and yourselves will be the finale to a fabulous week which will include a great lineup of entertainment that will include Miss Jennifer Holliday and dancing at the stadium.

Fran and I had a ball at the opening day and are planning for this Sunday, and hopefully I can get Fran into her new sun suit for the occasion, which would be a miracle!

To continue our Saturday activities, it was off to Bimbo's, where friends from far, and near, gathered to pay tribute to Grand Duke Tony and Grand Duchess Deena after their year of hard and dedicated work for the community.

Mike D. Dyke made history by being the first woman to capture a "male" title, and Lola Lust



Newly crowned Grand Duke Mike D'Dyke (l.) and Grand Duchess Lola Lust (Photo: Rink)

became the new Grand Duchess, and to both of them I wish the best of luck in all their endeavors during their reign.

Once you capture a title you are under constant pressure to produce parties and fundraisers to benefit the community. Titleholder or not, you can help by volunteering any one of the various AIDS organizations in the city, and also contact the No On 64/Stop LaRouche office at 130 Church St., 621-1145, and find out what you can do to help them in the campaign to stop LaRouche and the bigotry he stands for! Do it today!

Trocadero Transfer has a party planned for every night this week, all of them in a salute to the Games. Tonight is Get Down, Friday night is a Salute to Bodybuilders, Saturday is a Salute to Texas, and Sunday the Troc

open at 6 p.m. with a Salute to the Athletes. These parties are sure to be good times, and by calling the Troc Hotline at 495-0185, you can get in on the fun!

Amelia's has dancing nightly, and they are planning a special Goodbye Dance for Sunday following the conclusion of the Closing Ceremonies. This party, like all the other great events that happen at Amelia's, is guaranteed to be a knockout! You might ask when was the last time I was at Amelia's? Twice last week, and R.J. is right when he praises Lisa!

David Kelsey returns to the New Bell tonight after his gig in Vancouver and he will be playing all through the weekend, so drop by and bring your out of town guests with you for an only-in-San Francisco performer! The New Bell will celebrate its anniversary on the 24th of this month with another great party, and you are all invited!

This Saturday the Kokpit will celebrate the birthdays of Kenny Allison and Greta Grass starting at 3 p.m. with a \$5 beer bust that will include food, fun, and the usual frivolity. Tuesday the 19th they will be celebrating the birthday of Empress and Tavern Guild President Char with the festivities starting at 7 p.m. with food and a show hosted by Blair Maharis. Char will probably have to race back from the River, as the Tavern Guild will have its meeting at 1 p.m. that day at the Unsinkable Molly Brown's, and I know that will be a fun meeting. Happy birthday Kenny, Greta, and Char, and I wonder what the combined ages of that group would be?

The Parade Committee has three meetings coming up for the revision of the bylaws and the dates for those are Saturday, Aug. 16, noon to 4 p.m., Monday, Aug. 25, 7:30 to 10 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 6, noon to 4 p.m. All of these meetings will be held at 43A Juniper St., and all are welcome. Volunteers are needed for the Conference '86 project, and you can get involved by contacting Marsha Levine at 239-8344.

(Continued on next page)



Rita Rockett (l.) and erotic filmstar Missy Manners at a benefit screening of the Mitchell Brothers' *Behind the Green Door, the Sequel* (Photo: Rink)

Friese

(Continued from previous page)

The S.F.G.D.I. club will have a showing of the videotape from its run, The Comix, this Monday at 8 p.m. at the Transfer, and they will also be taking sign-ups for Minsky's 1986, which will be held in October at the California Club. See Lily, or call him at 431-7645.

With the Greatest of Ease was great and thank you Bob and Walter, once again, for the tickets and the nice evening! This week has certainly been busy for a lot of people, most of all for the many people who have worked so hard to bring it all together for so many to enjoy! You have truly given us a celebration in the true sense of the word!

The Daddy's Boy contest will take place at the S.F. Eagle Sunday the 31st, which will include a beer bust and auction that will benefit the S.F. AIDS Emergency Fund. The Miss Gay International Pageant will be held on the 31st also, at the Victoria Theater, with contestants from all over the world competing for the title. Tickets are now on sale at Esta Noche, and you can call them at 861-5757 for further details. The tickets should be out for Bar Wars III by this weekend, and that will be taking place Sunday the 24th on the Polkstrasse as a benefit for the Godfather Service Fund. See me at the New Bell for more info.



Bazaar Calendar

THURSDAY 8/14

Physique Contestants
Reception, Powerhouse, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY 8/15

Trax of Toronto Party, Trax,
6:30 p.m., buffet.

Michigan Diving Team Con-
test, Transfer, 8 p.m.

Constantine Bike Run,
Pioneer Trail, Friday through
Sunday, \$75.

SATURDAY 8/16

King Salmon Fishing Party,
leave from Pier 47 at 6 a.m.,
\$45.50, hosted by Olin from
Pilsner.

Greta Grass and Ken Allison
Birthday Party and Beer
Bust, Kokpit, 3 p.m. 'til ?

All Athletes Party, S.F. Eagle,
8 p.m. 'til ?

Down Home Dancin', Golden
Gate YMCA, 8 p.m., \$5. For info,
call 864-5285.

SUNDAY 8/17

Pat Norman Beer Bust, S.F.
Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$6.

Chili Cook-Off, Alamo Square
Saloon, 5 p.m.

MONDAY 8/18

Char's Birthday Party,
Kokpit, 7 p.m., buffet and show.

Showing of S.F.G.D.I. Run
Tape, Transfer, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 8/20

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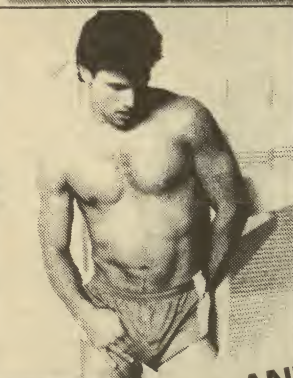
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Karr

(Continued from page 27)

ceive broader notice. He was hailed for *The Matador Club*, but finds himself in a strange position.

"My work is in the middle," he said. "I'm not a gay man, yet I address men — gay, bisexual, and straight. So I'm hard to pigeon hole, and the different groups can't see the inter-relation of ideas as I deal with the meaning of gender."

But in his *The Bohemian Grove*, with its collision of terra-firma Aylesworth and Planet Mary Bluestein, Aylesworth may find himself in the middle no more.

The Bohemian Grove plays Friday and Saturday nights at 8:30 p.m. at the Capp Street Playhouse, \$7, 641-4454. The complete text of Ron Bluestein's "A Waitress in Bohemia" will be on sale at all performances.

★ ★ ★

The entire plot of *Mama, I Want to Sing* (at the Calvin Simmons Theatre next door to the Oakland Art Museum) is exposed in its title, but that's okay, since the show follows suit and dispenses almost entirely with a script. All that's left in this biography of gospel and R & B singer Doris Troy is to sing the songs — and that *Mama, I Want to Sing* does.

'The entire plot of *Mama, I Want to Sing* is expressed in its title.'

The show is an anything-you-can-do-I-can-do-better showcase for a squadron of singers, a feast of gospel so theatrically arranged and excitingly sung as to nearly amount to overkill. The extended cadenzas and elaborate flights of exhortation which comprise gospel can only be likened to coloratura opera at its wildest — im-

agine *Norma* sung by Aretha Franklin and you'll understand much of the excitement generated by *Mama*.

The centerpiece of the show is the scene between Doris Troy, here playing her own mother, and refusing her 17-year-old daughter permission to go out on the road to sing pop music. Troy works the stage and our emotions with majesty and guts; her daughter answers in a solo no less fervent, and then the two combine in a duet leaving one stunned with its personal power and musical force.

And that's only one highlight of this knock-out tale. Never mind that the "story" disappears in the glory of the music, or that the show itself is too long, milking its curtain calls into a second show. The personal conviction which is inherent in the gospel form make this a knock-down singing spectacular. Gospel fans shouldn't miss it, and the uninitiated will become quick converts (through Aug. 17; 762-BASS).



Howard and Beverly on a date

Warren

(Continued from page 29)

Charlie (Karoly Eperjes) returns home after 28 months in prison and works out an arrangement with his wife Eva (Mariann Erdos) and her new lover Michael (Peter Andorai) to share their two-bedroom apartment, the Budapest housing shortage being too severe to find separate lodgings.

Charlie and Eva still love each other, after a fashion, but proceed to divorce. He brings other women home to upset her, eventually becoming halfway serious about the personnel director where he works, a woman whose feelings are never explored.

The other characters and plotlines also have room for expansion. Andorai is something of a cipher, but the other actors appear capable of playing whatever is given to them. It's sad that Szomjas chose instead to play sophomoric cinematic games. The fact that *Tight Quarters* is far from a total loss is a frustrating indication of what it could have been. (Pagoda Palace)

A MESS

The good news is that the hilarity never stops in Blake Edwards' *A Fine Mess*. The bad news is, it never starts. Edwards has made some of the best and worst comedies in Hollywood history. This is one of the worst. It follows all the rules of desperation comedy: If you can't be funny, be loud, be fast, be dirty, be

brightly-colored — and when all else fails, be physical. *A Fine Mess* gets physical a lot.

Ted Danson and Howie Mandel have the Laurel and Hardy roles in what started out as a remake of *The Music Box*. As a team they click like Tracy and Hepburn — *Dick Tracy* and *Audrey Hepburn*. They play close friends, but as Danson the stud tells a prospective bed partner, "I'm not gay, but please, don't take my word for it." Later, when her husband catches them, he tries to change his tune.

The movie begins with a scientist making a stimulating suppository to drug a race horse. It's administered by the relatively amusing team of Richard Mulligan and Stuart Margolin, who spend the rest of the picture chasing Danson and Mandel.

There's nothing in *A Fine Mess* that hasn't been done better elsewhere — often by Edwards himself. As for Danson, he sums it up when he tells a cop, "I'm an actor — or I'm trying to be." (Cinema 21, Serramonte)

THE TRUCKS IS COMING

Fans of movies about horror in everyday situations will get their share in Stephen King's *Maximum Overdrive*, a tale set in the near future when the earth passes through the tail of a comet and machines take over their own destinies, revolting against humankind. Everything becomes a deadly weapon, from a soda machine and battery-operated slicer to humungous trucks, led by one from "Happy Toyz" with a big green devil on the front.

The action is centered in a North Carolina truck stop where parolee Emilio Estevez is exploited by mean sumbitch Pat Hingle, and a small band of survivors is besieged by a fleet of driverless trucks.

Estevez and Laura Harrington give good sketches of tough '80s young people while the other caricatures are out of grade Z '50s sci-fi. King does no better at bringing his work to the screen than other directors have, especially letting us down in what should be an exciting climax.

The rock score is all done by one band—AC/DC—which lends coherence to the proceedings while still allowing a hit album.

I saw *Maximum Overdrive* in Florida, where a thunderstorm knocked out the projector momentarily at a crucial point. It brought the story into reality so effectively they should consider leaving it in. (Area theaters) ●



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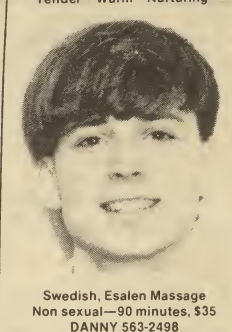


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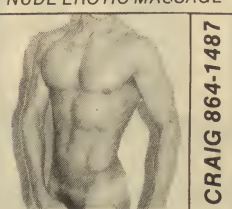
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Complete Massage In/Out
For a good time 558-8585 E33

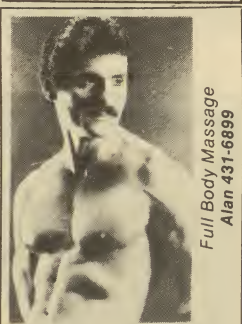
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Slow, soothing, sensual touch!
Emphasis on letting go of muscular
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I give a full body massage in the
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Exceptionally handsome,
Danish German blond swimmer
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Speedo fantasy, J/O, Super
Massage! (No SM)
\$100/in \$120/out

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Handsome & XX Hung
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Nice Buns, Cute Tan. Hung!
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BIG BUTT tall hairy blue-eyed
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TERRY: 6', 185lbs., 44"C.
When you need a man,
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ATTRACTIVE WITH GROOMED MASSAGE
BY OLD BLU BOND SWIMMER BUILT
5'11", 150lb, 35" NECK, 30" WAIST
SUPPORTS 15 MESSAGES WILL RETURN ALL
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Super Handsome, Super Hot
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Speedo fant. \$100 in/\$120 out
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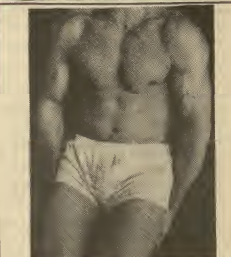
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Laid back, lean, smooth
Washbrd. abds. Masculine.
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\$50 in. Safe. Matt. 386-6940
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Thick cut 8 plus inches, needs
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★ THRU THICK OR THIN ★
It's THICK that's preferable!
UNBELIEVABLY BIG, BIG LEGS,
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for summer's fun
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★ HUGE THICK MEAT ★
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Southern Boy
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—24 HOURS—

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E34

I show off my fine muscle body,
you show excitement. Robert.
Out only. 861-6238 E33

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M/F/Cpls ok. 922-3752 E33

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Rock-roll tan stud, 25 yrs., 135
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Scott. Marines disconted. E33

SOLID MUSCLE!
Thick cut 8 plus inches, needs
French action. 30, 5'10", 200lbs.,
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B.J. is back! \$25 864-5483
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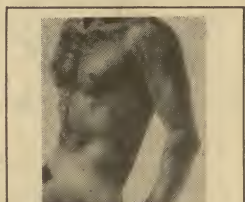
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5'9", 19 y.o., 10" double thick,
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muscle body build. I love to cuddle!
Vega 775-2216 24 hrs.

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BRIAN/26, 5'10", 160lbs.
24 HOURS—\$75 HR.
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PROFILE

Georgie Porgie

George Birimisa, Pioneering Playwright and Gay
Activist, Goes for the Gold in Physique at 62

by Paul Trefzger

Until approximately five months ago George Birimisa was fairly content to be known as the pioneering gay playwright listed in *Contemporary Authors* and *Who's Who* and a local activist who helped found Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, a part of Operation Concern. Now he wants to win a gold medal in the Masters division of Physique in Gay Games II. Birimisa is 62.

Born in Santa Cruz, he spent the majority of his youth — 20 years — in New York.

"I was a bum during the '40s and '50s. I hitchhiked all over the country. I was an alcoholic, smoked three packs of cigarettes a day, did drugs," said Birimisa. "(I was) another Kerouac." I asked if he had any of his current bodybuilding zeal when he was younger.

"I've always had a thing about my physique," he said. "I was working out when I was 30, but my body looks and feels better now than it did then. I've been 'dedicated' about a year and a half. Prior to that sometimes I'd get depressed. Then I just decided not to (be depressed). I loved what I was doing at GLOE. I run a writers' workshop for older lesbians and also a 'friendship group' for older gay men. We go on trips to, say, the Monterey Aquarium. About five months ago the thought occurred to me to enter the physique competition in the Games. I said to myself, 'This is wild!' I'd been an actor, playwright, director. I've been on the stage, but not posing. Not with just my privates covered. The team trials a couple of months ago was a first. When it was my turn and I did my routine, the crowd stood up and cheered. They went wild."

George spoke of his trainer, Paul Morales, a 49-year-old man.

"He's been giving me a posing routine. He even restyled my hair. He has his own salon. What's so unusual is that we'll be competing against each other, yet he's been training me. That's the spirit of the Games, you see. He's a sweet man." The Masters division is age 40 and up. The other divisions are by weight. Birimisa added, "There are 45 men and 45 women overall. The women look great! There is no Masters division for women. That gives you an idea how far the women have come in a short period of time."

George works out at the Central YMCA, "five times a week, two and a half to three hours a day. And I jog at least five miles every morning." I asked if there was an area he concentrated on. "My chest," he said. I complimented him on the results after he showed me a "before" photograph. "I worked my butt off," he added. I inquired about his routine.



George Birimisa strikes a pose.

(Photo: Rink)

"I get advice from different people. I listen closely and I watch people. Then I experiment, see if something works. The hardest part for an older person is 'the middle.' I do 600 to 700 sit-ups. For a while I was doing 1000." He attributes this strength partly to his "energy drink" and to getting an adequate amount of sleep. "And I have a discipline now that I used to lack. In order for an older person to get that stomach down, you've got to watch your diet and do heavy stomach work." I asked about the theory that a lot of stomach work will just add muscle to an already big stomach. He said, "Baloney. What you get is a gorgeous stomach." I asked him if he was in the city during the first Games.

'As a playwright, his success was also the result of pioneering and following dreams.'

"Yeah," he said, "but I wasn't ready — my head — I had just started getting involved with the gay community."

"I got involved in GLOE in 1982 and they were just starting. I was 58. All my friends were young. I said to myself, 'George, you're getting up there. It's about time you got to know some people your own age.' I don't think that there's a gay man around who isn't somewhat ageist and afraid to face their own aging. One of the reasons I'm do-

ing this is to show that there are options, alternatives. You can be anything you want to be when you get older. Get rid of the stereotype of the nelly old queen or the old faggot. GLOE is for lesbians and gay men 60 and older. We're part of Operation Concern and we're funded by the Commission On Aging." Of his workshop and his group, Birimisa said, "Yes, I created them. It was a dream I had and it's worked. Anyone interested can phone 626-7009 and ask for Tim Greene or Elaine Porter."

As a playwright, his success was also the result of pioneering and following dreams.

"My themes were gay when nothing like that was being written," he said. "Two plays in particular won critical acclaim, *Georgie Porgie* and *Daddy Violet*. It was the '60s and early '70s." I asked if he encountered much opposition.

"Oh, god. My dear, how I survived I don't know. The biggest, *Georgie Porgie*, about the pain of being gay in this society, was a year before gay liberation, 1968." More recently, his *Pogey Bait*, a Theatre Rhinoceros production, played to packed houses for six weeks in 1981.

Besides the booze, cigarettes, and drug abuse, Birimisa was from an impoverished family and even experienced life in an orphanage. "I had to do a lot of work to get my shit together, to think something of myself," he said.

"I think of this physique contest as a celebration. I really do. A celebration of my life." ●

SOFTBALL

Gay Softball League

Amelia's, Pendulum Champs; Gay Games II Opens

by Tom Vindeed

Just as the 1986 softball season opened with an exciting game, it closed with the Pendulum edging the Village 2-0 and Amelia's nipping Capt. Video 1-0 to capture their respective Gay Softball League titles.

Once again Bob Viereck pitched the Pirates to its fourth pennant in six seasons, and Patty Flynn sparked the Aviators to its second consecutive title by shocking Capt. Video.

Amelia's was a heavy underdog to Capt. Video, but if the team concept works, the Aviators are perfect examples of it. Playing hurt, the Amelia's women played up to their potential to claim the title.

Congratulations to both teams; you deserve it. Here's hoping Wes Jackson gets well for New York and the Gay Softball World Series.

★ ★ ★

'The rest is history.'

The first game between the Pendulum and the Village saw the Pirates do nothing wrong as it thumped the Village 13-2. Mike Gray, Glen Burke, and Steve Smith showed the way for the Pirates. This sent the Village against Trax, which it derailed 11-1. That gave Trax third place and the Pilsner Inn fourth place.

Getting new life from the win over Trax, the Village scored an exciting 8-5, 11-inning win to send the championships to that final game. The rest is history.

Gay Games softball opened on a high note for San Francisco when the home team whipped Vancouver 19-5 in five innings last Sunday. One downer was that popular Gus Nino broke his ankle and is out for the season. San Francisco then won an upset when it shocked Boston 6-5 by scoring four runs in the seventh inning to claim victory. How about a San Francisco vs. South San Francisco final? That would be fun.

All Gay Games softball is being played at Moscone Field, Bay and Laguna.

★ ★ ★

For all you G.S.L. players and fans, the league banquet is set for the Cathedral Hill Hotel Sept. 6. Details next week.

Community Softball League

Now It's Just Four

by Rodger Soto

When the dust had cleared Sunday there were long faces on the teams that were the losers and smiles on the faces that were winners. The losers have nothing to be ashamed of because this was one of the best playoff series I have seen. The scores were exceptionally high, but they always are when the Community Softball League plays at Lang Field because the teams have outgrown this field's fences.

In the best games of the day it was McGowan Division Champs Beake Brothers vs. Everett's of San Francisco. The biggest surprise was that the competition did not go three games. Everett's has more championships than any other team in C.S.L. history and has never finished lower than second place. It was not to be this year; Bill Haller's Beakers played good solid defense as well as hitting the ball well. The scores in these two games were 10-6 and 10-7. Leading the hitting for Beake's were Luis, Roy, and Greenfield, and on the Everett's side were Norm Smith, Steve King, and Steve Parrish.

In the Cinch and Molinari games it was sweet revenge for Bob Finney's Cinchers. The team had been clobbered the week before by Molinari and this week came back with decisive wins, 18-10 and 10-2. Leading the hitting as well as great defensive plays was Cincher Steve McTonnell.

The Other Cafe (last year's champions) had an easy time of it against Overflo/Slow Rush, and will be the team to beat again this year. The Overflo is a veteran team that always seems to have good days and bad days, and Sunday was definitely not one of their better ones. In the first game everyone on the Other Cafe who

is capable of hitting over the short fence did, and in the second game on Lang 2 the hard-hitting Cafe was still hitting over the long fence. A John DeMenico (JD) appeared to have led the team in the hitting department.

The Bunkhouse took advantage of the short fence also with all its big left-handed hitters, and destroyed the Rockin' Robins with an 18-8 score and then played a good defensive game with the Bunkies, winning it 5-2. The Bunkhouse leading batters were P & D Lewis, Groves, Story, and Connowell, and on the Rockin' Robin side it was S. Salazar.

'In the best game of the day it was McGowan Division champs Beake Brothers vs. Everett's of San Francisco.'

The semi-finals will be played at Jackson Field starting at High Noon with the best two out of three games, if necessary. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the President of the Board of Supervisors for the loan of my typewriter because otherwise there would have been no C.S.L. articles this year. It was great seeing him and Mrs. Molinari as well as Dennis Collins and Wayne Friday cheering on his team. The Gay Games II opener was a smashing success and good luck to all the participants.

In closing I would like to wish a get well soon to long-time sponsor, player, and supporter of the C.S.L., Bert Farber, who is recovering from by-pass surgery and appears to be doing great.

JAPANTOWN BOWL

Team Standings and Personal Achievements

(The League Averages Are Unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE

(Week 6 of 13 as of 8/3/86)

1. "The 69 Club"	18	2
2. Strange Interlude	17	7
3. Mierda de Toro	13	11
4. "Dustyballs"	12	12
5. Strikes R Us	12	12
6. Split City Rollers	11	13
7. Beast N Beauties	11	9
8. Versatiles	10	14
9. Mary's Boys	10	14
10. The Missing Persons	0	24

High Scratch Game

Bob Sulewski (Mierda De Toro)	213
Peter Victorino (The 69 Club)	209
Joel Bealer (Split City Rollers)	204

High Scratch Series

Herman Fleming (Strange Interlude)	552
Bob Sulewski (Mierda De Toro)	537
Peter Victorino (The 69 Club)	534

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 40 as of 8/1/86)

1. Capricorn I	18	10
2. Mane Islanders	17	11
3. The Eruptions	17	11
4. Ouahu Lei U	15	13
5. Cookies 'N' Creme	14	14
6. Lackanookie	11	17
7. Wicked Wahines	10	18
8. Pinned Down	6	22

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 14 as of 7/28/86)

1. Play With It	20	8
2. Urasis Dragon Too	18	10
3. Bowling Bags	16	12
4. Striketees	16	12
5. Team #9	15	13
6. Agency-Rent-A-Car	14	14
7. Team #1	12	16
8. Do We Care?	12	16
9. Missfitts	9	19
10. Meatballs	8	20

High Scratch Game

Nathan Hauser (Urasis D Too)	276
Hunter Bauman (Urasis D Too)	246
Don Gambell (Bowling Bags)	233

High Scratch Series

Nathan Hauser (Urasis D Too)	617
Hunter Bauman (Urasis D Too)	598
Randy Peterson (Agency-RA-Car)	596

Compiled by Jerry R. DeYoung

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 16 as of 7/29/86)

1. The 69 Club	17	11
2. Easy Marks	17	11
3. Summer Stock	17	11
4. Us Again	16	12
5. Alley Warriors	16	12
6. Easy Pickups	13	15
7. Lois Lanes	13	15
8. Split Sisters	13	15
9. Gutter Gang	12 1/2	15 1/2
10. Gutter Slutz	12	16
11. Team #3	12	16
12. Ball Busters	9 1/2	18 1/2

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 16 as of 7/30/86)

1. Male Image	22	6
2. High Gear	20	8
3. Brunswick Beauties	18	10
4. Bow-K	17	11
5. Puhios	15	13
6. 4-N-1	15	13
7. Five Spades	15	13
8. Play With It, Ltd.	14	14
9. Sashettes	14	10
10. EZ Pick Up	13	15
11. Foote Plumbing	12	16
12. Hurricanes	12	16
13. Blackouts	12	12
14. Mother Nature	9	19
15. The Virgins	8	20
16. Epic Flyers	4	24

THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 8 of 16 as of 7/31/86)

1. Old Rick's	22	10
2. Hob Nob Co.	20	12
3. Pendulum	19	13
4. Twin Peaks	16	16
5. Geri's Girls	16	16
6. Pilsner Penguins	16	12
7. Pendulum #1	15	17
8. Stallion	14 1/2	13 1/2
9. Gutter Snipes	11 1/2	20 1/2

High Scratch Game

Bruce Gresham (Pendulum #1)	256
Richard Harry (Stallion)	234
Art White (Twin Peaks)	226
Dennis Hale (Pendulum #1)	226

High Scratch Series

Bruce Gresham (Pendulum #1)	661
Dennis Hale (Pendulum #1)	598
Cliff Russell (Old Rick's)	564
Richard Harry (Stallion)	563

POOL

Perfect Two Dozen for 17th Season

by Lauren Ward

Recent weeks have been buzzing with the business of conducting the Gay Games pool competitions and getting the fall SFPA season in gear.

Twenty-four teams signed up for the 17th season of the San Francisco Pool Association at its pre-season Captain's tournament held recently at Park Bowl. Congratulations to Toni Macante for her first-place finish. The number of teams proved ideal for the scheduling committee to hammer out an ideal schedule. There are four divisions of six teams. Each team plays other teams in their division twice, once at home, once away. In addition, there's a ninth week interdivisional match between equally ranked teams.

The league welcomes our new sponsors, the Detour, the Special, the Inside Out, and the Stallion. Welcome back to our returning sponsors.

The first Gay Games medalists were decided Sunday in the men's team nine-ball competition. Sacramento earned the Gold, Houston the Silver, and Boston the Bronze. Competition continues throughout the week at Park Bowl with the final rounds of women's individual 8-ball playing Thursday evening and men's individual 8-ball Friday. Unfinished finals will be played on Saturday. Phone numbers for specific information: Gay Games office, 861-8282; Park Bowl, 752-2366; and the SFPA can be reached by dialing JOE-POOL.

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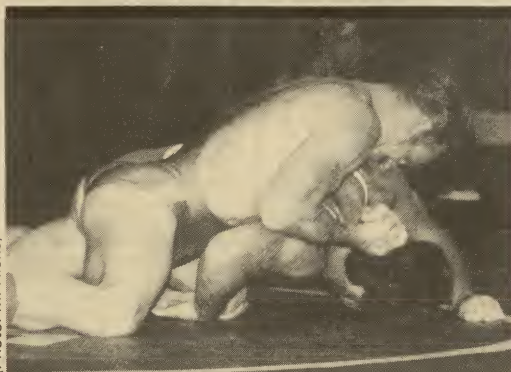
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and all contestants from
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Scenes of Gay Games II



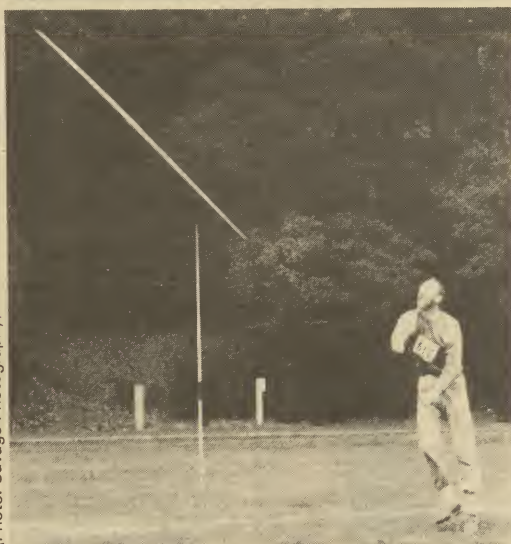
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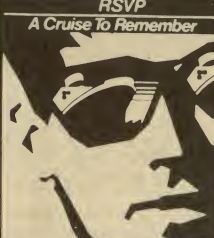
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Jobs Offered

HEALTH PLANNER
General Statement of Duties: This position will be assigned to work under the direction of the AIDS Activity Office, Department of Public Health to modify and maintain the data collection system for AIDS services in San Francisco and prepare materials that describe the activities of these services for use by community groups, city commissions and boards, state and federal agencies and visitors from other parts of the United States and foreign countries.
Salary: \$30,000 plus fringe benefits.
AIDS Diagnosis Preference: Eligible people with AIDS diagnosis shall receive preference with proof of such diagnosis.

Interested applicants must submit a letter of application and resume to: Personnel, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia Street, Fourth Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103. No later than August 15, 1986, 5 PM. Telephone inquiries will not be accepted! Women, people of color and of all sexual orientations are encouraged to apply.
AA/EOE. E33

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Position: Parent Education In-
structor, Schedule II (80% of
full-time)

Deadline for applying: September
5, 1986

Availability: Upon selection
Salary: Initial salary placement
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BA, based upon education and
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Further information: Contact Ger-
trude Gillette, Assistant Director,
John Adams Community College
Center. Tel. (415) 561-1936 E33

Positions: Parent Education In-
structor, part-time (15 hrs./wk.)
and State Preschool Program In-
structors, part-time (16 hrs./wk.)
—categorically funded)

Deadline for applying: September
5, 1986

Availability: Upon selection
Salary: \$22.40 per hour mini-
mum; may be higher depending
upon experience within the
District.

Additional information: Contact
Gertrude Gillette, Assistant Direc-
tor, John Adams Community Col-
lege Center. Tel. (415) 561-1936
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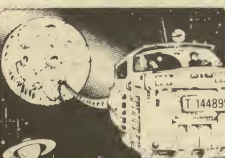
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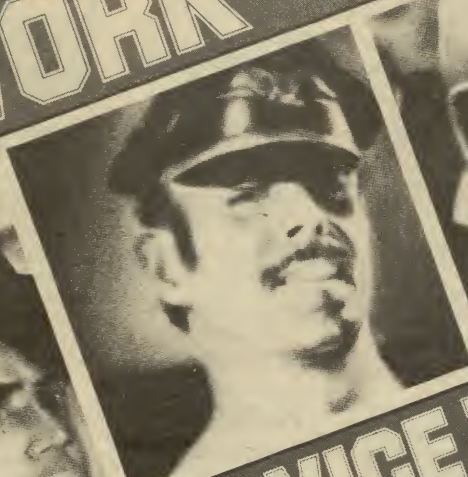
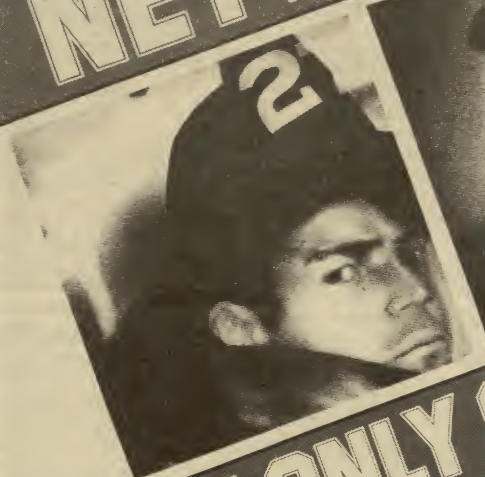
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ILLUSTRATIONS: Randy West